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THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is supplied by subscription to the whole of the members of EIGHTEEN CHEMISTS' SOCIETIES in the British Empire, including Ireland, Australia, New Zealand, South Africa, and the West Indies. Besides, its paid subscription circulation at home and to all parts of the civilised world is intrinsically and numerically unique.

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CLOSING FOR PRESS.

As copies of *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary*, 1908, for our subscribers in the Colonies and elsewhere abroad must be posted so as to reach them before the close of the present year, the Publisher is completing his press arrangements. It is, therefore, important that firms who have not already sent their instructions to him should understand that we cannot guarantee the insertion of any announcement received after Friday, November 15. We accordingly impress on advertisers, desirous of using this opportunity for addressing buyers of druggists' goods the world over, the importance of sending copy and any blocks required during the next day or two. The circulation of *The Chemists' and Druggists' Diary* is of such a character that it takes the binders some weeks to complete their work after the copies are printed, and it is impossible to treat the production as a series of editions according to the location of subscribers.

THE BUYERS' GUIDE

in the *Diary* is so valuable to retailers and wholesalers alike that we have been asked to point out to manufacturers of specialities, etc., the desirability of advertising them in the *Diary*, so that appropriate references to them may be entered in the Guide.

Summary.

The subjoined paragraphs give the gist of the more important matters in this issue, with the object of showing at a glance what has happened during the week. See also "Contents" in the first column.

LUTETIUM is the name of a new element (p. 711).

A NEW CAMPHOR COMPANY, with a capital of 100,000*l.*, has been formed (p. 716).

SOME more Christmas goods and other novelties are described under Trade Notes, beginning on p. 717.

THE PHARMACEUTICAL WORDS in the last-issued part of the New English Dictionary are mentioned by "Xrayser" on p. 721.

THE names of those who passed the Apothecaries' Assistants' examination in October are communicated by the Society (p. 708).

MR. JOHN SMITH has been elected President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland and Sir William Baxter Vice-President (p. 710).

EIGHT COMPETITORS share the prizes offered in our issue of October 19 for solutions of the prescription problem. Another is given on p. 720.

TOBACCO-STALKS are now extensively used for the production of nicotine in bond. Some particulars of this important industry are given on p. 723.

MR. THOMAS RILEY, Nottingham's oldest chemist, died this week. He was an interesting personality, and had a wonderful fund of anecdote (p. 717).

THE rat-killing power of sulphur dioxide has been investigated by Dr. John Wade on behalf of the Local Government Board, and his conclusions are epitomised on p. 723.

HAS the Pharmaceutical Society attained the purpose for which it was instituted? Mr. James Mackenzie puts this question and answers it with an emphatic negative on p. 736.

FURTHER INFORMATION about the Australian tariff and medicine matters is given on p. 712. The Proprietary Articles Section of the London Chamber of Commerce is to meet again next week.

THE MASTER OF THE ROLLS (IRELAND) has granted an injunction restraining a limited company from using the title "surgeon-dentist," which, he said, was "an audacious fraud on the public" (p. 714).

INDIGO was the subject of consideration at the meeting of the Society of Chemical Industry in London this week, Mr. Friswell starting with a sketch of the present position of the indigo industry (p. 720).

SIR JAMES RICKETT, Chairman of the Hull Public Libraries Committee, has made a statement regarding the trade journals (p. 708), and we comment upon the matter so far as the *C. & D.* is concerned (p. 722).

MR. HUNTRODS, the President of the Drug-stores Association, states that there will in five years be 1,000 more unregistered than registered chemists in this country. This was said at the annual meeting of the Association, reported on p. 731.

WHAT IS DISPENSING? Little more is said on this question, the feeling being that only a High Court case will settle it. "Xrayser" sends a last word about it (p. 721), and at Halifax Mr. G. Dixon initiated an interesting discussion on the need for revising the Poison Schedule (p. 730).

THE exchequer of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain is almost depleted; in fact, it was reported to the Council this week that there was only 289*l.* in hand to pay accounts amounting to 3,053*l.* We contrast the conditions at the corresponding dates since 1901 (p. 724).

MR. THOMAS TICKLE, Mr. F. W. Gamble, and Mr. Harold Wyatt are the pharmacists who have been elected to fill vacancies on the Pharmaceutical Board of Examiners for England and Wales (p. 727). Portraits and personal notes of Messrs. Burrell, Lunan, Tocher, and Wyatt are printed on p. 719.

THE further advance in the Bank rate continues to penalise genuine business, and has checked practically all speculation in produce. Price alterations include an advance in apricot-kernel oil, henbane ext., thyme and cubeb oils, and copper sulphate. Norwegian cod-liver oil, male fern ext. and arsenic are easier. Camphor, clove oil, shellac, and turpentine are lower. Glycerin is firm (p. 732).

English News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Brevities.

The meeting of the Torquay Chemists' Association, held on Thursday, October 31, was adjourned for about a fortnight on account of the small attendance.

The premises of Mr. Walter Warburton, chemist and druggist, at 33 High Town, Hereford, were offered for sale by auction last week, but the lot was withdrawn at 1,950%.

In referring to Clitheroe's high infantile mortality in his annual report just issued, Dr. B. Sergeant, the medical officer of health, suggests Government analysis of infant foods and prohibition of the sale of feeding-bottles with long tubes.

At Birkenhead, on October 30, Mr. A. H. Ellithorne, chemist and druggist, 26 Wallington Road, Oxtou Road, was fined 5s. and 5s. 6d. costs under the Employment of Children Act, for employing a boy under the age of thirteen years after 9 p.m. It was explained that the boy was sent out after 7.15 p.m., and could easily have been back before 9 p.m.

The Public Health Committee of the Greenwich Borough Council, having had under consideration the expense incurred in the examination of pathological specimens sent to the Clinical Research Association, report in favour of the establishment of a chemical and bacteriological laboratory in the borough. The medical officer of health estimated that the annual cost would be about 366%. The sum expended this year for the examination of specimens and in fees to the public analyst was 545%. Further inquiries are to be made.

At a meeting of the Alverstoke Board of Guardians on November 5, a woman, named McDonald, applied for out-relief for herself and six children. She said her husband, W. M. McDonald, was at one time in the employ of Timothy White, Ltd., as a chemist. In November last McDonald eloped with a woman named Hyslop to America. He is now in Allegheny County Gaol awaiting execution for the murder of the woman Hyslop, and he has written a letter to his wife asking her to endeavour to get Mr. Woolmer White to draw up and to obtain signatures for his reprieve.

Sir James Reckitt, the Chairman of the Libraries Committee of the Hull Corporation, announced at a meeting of the Committee on Monday that the Committee had decided to withdraw the "Pharmaceutical Journal" from the reading room and place it in the reference department in consequence of the complaint recently made by a joint deputation from the Hull and District Chemists' Association and the Hull Chemists' Trading Association. The supply of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, which was presented by a subscriber and the presence of which was also objected to, had been stopped through the intervention of the proprietors.

Society of Apothecaries' Assistants' Examination.

The following candidates were last month granted the certificate of qualification to act as an assistant to an apothecary in compounding and dispensing medicines:

Allen, B. G.	Davies, R. S.	Macleod, M. E.
Andrews, J. A.	Davison, M. E.	Marsh, R.
Babst, R. V.	Dods, M.	Matthews, R.
Bird, A. E.	Duguid, J.	Negus, E. M.
Bretton, D. G.	Edelston, M.	Organ, S. W.
Brownrigg, H. G.	Edmond, S. F.	Paine, C. N.
Bury, E. M.	Edwards, A. E.	Shapland, A. L.
Cable, M. E. M.	Fisher, E. M.	Skrimshire, H. M.
Campbell, M. P.	Fraser, J. McB.	Smith, E. E.
Cant, E.	Gardner, F.	Smith, M. F.
Carstairs, H. E.	Hocken, C. M.	Thomas, M. R.
Collinge, M.	Horrocks, E. F.	Watt, M. E. A.
Coole, E.	Jackson, M. A.	Wilding, G. S.
Cousins, M.	Lawrence, E.	Wolverson, M. A.
Craig, A. J.	Lee, O. M.	Wood, B.
Danson, H. H.		

Royal Society Medals.

The King has approved of the following awards of the Royal Medals:

The Copley Medal to Professor A. A. Michelson, of Chicago, For. Mem. R.S., for his investigations in optics.

A Royal Medal to Dr. Ernest William Hobson, F.R.S., for his investigations in mathematics.

A Royal Medal to Dr. Ramsay H. Traquair, F.R.S., for his discoveries relating to fossil fishes.

The Davy Medal to Professor Edward W. Morley, of Cleveland, Ohio, for his contributions to physics and chemistry, and especially for his determinations of the relative atomic weights of hydrogen and oxygen.

The Buchanan Medal to Mr. W. H. Power, C.B., F.R.S., for his services to sanitary science.

The Hughes Medal to Professor Ernest H. Griffiths, F.R.S., for his contributions to exact physical measurement.

The Sylvester Medal to Professor Wilhelm Wirtinger, of Vienna, for his contributions to the general theory of functions.

At the Cookeries.

The art of cooking as typified by the Universal Cookery and Food Exhibition held in the Royal Horticultural Hall, Westminster, this week, appears to have attained its highest perfection. One of the *C. & D.* staff who walked round on the opening day found himself in a bewildering display of most artistic cookery. Particularly fine were the decorations in sugar, piping, modelling, and marzipan work, while the baskets and bunches of flowers all done in sugar looked too good to eat. There were also many displays of bread, cakes, and other preparations. Domestic cookery was represented by exhibits from the London County Council Schools, for which special prizes are offered. Among firms exhibiting on the commercial side is the INTERNATIONAL PLASMON CO., LTD., who make a comprehensive display of all their products. The novelties included Plasmon tea, a combination of Plasmon with tea, this blending with the protein neutralising the tannin, thus removing the astringency. The flavour recalls that of China tea, and the "brew" has a milky and smooth appearance when poured out. The tea is sold in packets at 9d., 1s. 4d., and 2s. 6d. tins. The new Plasmon bread, for which a separate company has been formed, was much in evidence. BRAND & CO., LTD., made an elaborate display of their household meat-foods, paying special attention to their home-made beef-tea in glass, a comparatively new preparation containing the concentrated beef-tea ready for immediate use. The exhibit is more devoted to domestic than invalid wants, although the latter are of course a staple of the business. LIEBIG'S EXTRACT OF MEAT CO., LTD., gave prominence to Lemco and Oxo. CEREBOS, LTD., showed baking-powder, health salt, pepper, and "Pepsalia." PAINE & CO., LTD., devoted a stall to their "John Bull" brand of malt extract, malt and oil and malt specialities. They have just added infants' food to their preparations; this contains a large percentage of dry malt prepared *in vacuo* with the addition of whole cream milk (sterilised), and is adapted for infants of one to six months. They have also a malted cereal food intended for children and invalids. The SOUTH AUSTRALIAN GOVERNMENT have taken the production of honey under their wing, an exhibit being devoted to this product only. The Government, through its produce export department, are now shipping regular supplies for sale in this country. This honey is gathered largely from the flowers of the sugar gum, and contains the flavour of eucalyptus. It is shipped under the supervision of the Government, and guaranteed to be absolutely pure.

Chemists and the Public Service.

In addition to those mentioned in last week's issue (p. 674), the following have been elected to municipal bodies:

Mr. John Bennet Martin, chemist and druggist, Helston.
Mr. Matthew Herrod, chemist and druggist, Norfolk Street, Wisbech.

Mr. John Henry Collins, chemist and druggist, Albert Street, Mansfield.

Mr. John Gilbert Mellor, chemist and druggist, 40 High Street, Warwick.

Mr. Horace Eastwood, chemist and druggist, 180 Netherfield Road, Nelson.

Mr. Edward Ripley, chemist and druggist, 261 London Road, St. Leonards, Hastings.

Mr. Nehemiah Tomlinson, chemist and druggist, Burnley, beat his Labour opponent by 278 votes.

Mr. G. Turton Green, chemist and druggist, 41 Bell

Street, Henley-on-Thames, elected at the top of the poll, with ninety votes more than the second successful candidate.

Mr. P. R. Hill, pharmaceutical chemist, High Street, Gorleston, to Yarmouth Town Council. This was Mr. Hill's first attempt, and he defeated the sitting member by fifty.

Mr. G. Claridge Druce, M.A., pharmaceutical chemist, has been re-elected for the sixth time to the Oxford Town Council. Mr. Druce has also been appointed a director of the Oxford Gas Co.

Alderman Henry Gadd, J.P., of Evans, Gadd & Co., manufacturing chemists, Exeter and Bristol, has been nominated for the mayoralty of Exeter for the ensuing year, and his brother-in-law, Mr. Henry Wippell, will be Sheriff of the city. Mr. Gadd has had considerable experience of municipal work as an Alderman of the Corporation. He is a Liberal Unionist and a Congregationalist, being the oldest deacon of the Southernhay Congregational Church, and he is also superintendent of the Sunday School of that church. He is widely known as the President of the Exeter Young Men's Christian Association, and as one of the oldest magistrates of that city he has largely interested himself in the welfare of discharged prisoners.

Football.

City Mills F.C. at Barking defeated Ascension F.C. by 1 goal to *nil*.

Allenbury F.C. met London Fields F.C. at Victoria Park on November 2, and Allenbury's were defeated by 8 goals to *nil*.

In the City Senior Championship Heron F.C. met Ravensbourne F.C. at Lee, and after a fine contest were defeated by 4 goals to 3.

Birmingham Notes.

Much sympathy will be extended to Mr. W. R. Hedges, of Dale End, who has lost his daughter, and Mr. T. W. Chapman, Bristol Street, who has also lost a near relative.

The local Association begins its session with a presidential reception and address, followed by a concert with light refreshments, at the instance of Mr. A. William Southall and Mrs. Southall. The business meetings begin on December 3, with a paper on "Experiments with some Official Tinctures," by Mr. F. H. Alcock.

By joining the local Medical Army Corps young chemists could gain a capital insight into ward-room work, for Colonel Whitcombe's Bearer Company of the City Volunteers have been allowed to receive for nearly twelve months gratuitous instruction at the General Hospital in such work on Sunday mornings. An extension is to be made in the direction of similar sanitary work under the guidance of experts.

Liverpool Notes.

A notice of the first meeting of the winter session of the Chemists' Association has just come to hand. The opening is so belated that inquiries were going round bearing on the general health of this local parliament.

Amid the present outcry against drug-stores, the greatest cutters seem to go unnoticed. There is one grocery concern in the city with many branch shops who specialise in almost every line of popular domestic remedies and household adjuncts. They carry a full stock of "patents" and proprietaries, and make large displays of cough-balsam, cod-liver oil, chemical-food, glycerin, Seidlitz-powders, etc., at cut prices throughout; it is even reported that some of these shops break bulk in a well-known pill at four a penny.

The Liverpool Chamber of Commerce Magazine, in its reference to historic pharmacies, omitted to mention the second-oldest drug-house in the city—viz., that of Messrs. Clay, Dod & Co., 52 St. Anne Street. The omission is the more remarkable, writes a correspondent, in that the name of Robert Clay is over a wide area synonymous with the uprise of pharmacy as a distinct recognised craft. The firm was established by Robert Clay in 1813, and it is notable that Messrs. John McGuffie & Co., of South Castle Street, have been all these years customers of the house. The late Michael Conroy was in his early days in Messrs. Clay, Dod & Co.'s laboratory.

Manchester Notes.

At a meeting of the Court of the Manchester University held on November 1, Mr. Hermann Woolley was appointed

a member of the Council of the University for next year. Mr. Woolley has also been honoured by the Alpine Club, which has elected him its president.

The death of a little boy after eating some comfrey-leaves, which a herbalist had swept out of his shop has caused correspondents of the local daily papers to expatiate on the healing-virtues of this herb. Broken bones, bruises from cricket-balls, blood-poisoning, hurts, and neuralgia all yield to its beneficent action, and even the cottager's pig, when feverish, is cured by them.

At the Manchester Assizes, while a case was being tried where the plaintiff alleged he was injured by a flying piece of coal which smashed the carriage-window while the train was in motion, Mr. Abraham Flatters, of Flatters & Garnets, gave evidence of having microscopically examined and photographed the black stains found on plaintiff's tourist-ticket, and also on his linen collar, and of having found them to be coaldust. The objects were placed under a microscope, and judge and jury had ocular demonstration of them.

Sheffield Notes.

The annual dinner of the Sheffield Pharmaceutical and Chemical Society has been fixed for Thursday, November 21, at the Royal Victoria Hotel.

Professor W. Palmer Wynne, D.Sc., F.R.S., is to inaugurate the series of popular lectures for the coming session at the University on Saturday, November 9, his subject being "Fog."

Mr. E. C. Exell, chemist and druggist, is hoping to open his new pharmacy at the bottom of Ellesmere Road on Saturday, November 9. The shopfitters have practically completed their work, and the adequate fittings of polished mahogany promise to give the pharmacy a very handsome appearance. Mr. Exell has been on the staff of Mr. G. T. W. Newsholme, of High Street (to whom he was apprenticed), for nearly twenty years.

Mr. J. T. Appleton, chemist and druggist, of South Road, Walkley, has just opened a smart-looking branch pharmacy at the terminus of the Hillsborough and Owlerton cars, the centre of a rapidly growing district. Although Sheffield has of recent years seen the closing of a number of old-time pharmacies, the younger generation show themselves to be fully alive to the opportunities which the rapidly extending borders of the city open out.

Councillor A. Russell Fox, F.L.S., chemist and druggist, has been taking an active part in the recent municipal elections, and had the satisfaction of assisting in the capture of a seat from the Opposition in his own ward. Instead of resting after his arduous labours, he presided over the initial municipal concert of the season on Thursday last. Two other local pharmacists who took a share in the exciting events of last week in the electioneering were Mr. Percy Carr and Mr. J. M. Furness, J.P.

One of the local newspapers is publishing extracts from the diary of an old-time Sheffielder, annotated by a local antiquary. In the issue of November 1 appeared an interesting note respecting an old Sheffield druggist, Richard Sutcliffe, a Quaker, who, besides being skilled in the drugs he sold, had also an extensive knowledge of chemistry and, it would appear, some insight into geology. His shop on Sheffield Moor was largely frequented by those who desired to save doctors' bills. Several of Sheffield's well-known surgeons (for instance, Mr. Hall Overend) obtained their initial training from him.

Analysts' Reports.

Reports made by public analysts to their respective authorities have come in from various parts of the country, and in most cases the drug-samples taken were all found to be genuine. At Liverpool four samples out of twenty-nine taken were at fault. The analyst for the county of Stafford (Mr. E. W. T. Jones) had trouble with gentian. He analysed twelve samples of powdered gentian root and found two (from the same shop) adulterated with "about 20 per cent. of some vegetable matter foreign to gentian root of a sawdust-like character, but which he was unable to identify." The sample also puzzled "an eminent professor of pharmacology," to whom it was submitted. The third sample was mixed with ground almond shells, and the other with a mixture of almond shells and bean meal.

Six samples of tartaric acid were reasonably free from arsenic, but one contained nearly $\frac{3}{4}$ grain per lb. of lead.

The Use of Boric Acid.

At an inquest held in Borough Road, S.E., on November 1, by Dr. F. J. Waldo, the Southwark Coroner, concerning the death of John Regan (4), the father stated that a pair of new boots caused a sore on the child's foot. The child was taken to a doctor, who ordered him to be sent to Guy's Hospital, where the child died twenty-four hours after a successful operation. It transpired in evidence that the father went to a chemist and got a white ointment for the sore. Dr. E. Wragg, of Guy's, thought it was perhaps zinc ointment or something of the kind, and if so, zinc ointment would not do much harm, but it also could not do much good. If only the poorer classes, said the doctor, could be educated up to using boric acid many cures would be effected at the start of troubles of the kind under investigation. Further evidence having been given that the child died from heart failure caused by blood-poisoning, a verdict of accidental death was returned.

The Chorley Chemical Laboratory.

A letter was read to the Chorley (Blackburn) Town Council at their last meeting from Dr. Snape, of the County Council, suggesting that the completion of fitting up the chemical laboratory should be paid for out of the loan sanctioned by the Lancashire Education Committee. The Council also decided that the tender of Mr. William Hampson for the supply and fitting of a chemical laboratory bench according to specification be accepted; as well as the tender of Messrs. Townson & Mercer for physics apparatus.

Drugged Sweets.

The chief inspector to the Durham County Council (Mr. B. Scott Elder), in the course of his report, states that among various samples and kinds of sweetmeats, he obtained and submitted for special analysis two samples of chlorodyne sweetmeats, known as "chlorodyne gums" and "chlorodyne lozenges." Both these samples were certified to contain no morphia whatever, but each "gum" contained 0.15 minim and each "lozenge" 0.06 minim of chloroform. According to the British Pharmacopœia, the minimum internal dose of chloroform is 1 minim, so that if a person eats seven chlorodyne gums it is equivalent to receiving one dose of chloroform. These sweets are sold at the rate of 1d. per oz., and twenty-one of them are supplied to 1 oz., so that a child spending 1d. is supplied with 4 minims of chloroform in sweetmeat form. Other questionable samples were "chocolate liqueur beans," "rum-and-butter sweets," and "chocolate liquor beans." On analysis each of these samples was found to contain a minute trace of alcohol. There is a great demand for them among children, who refer to them as "whisky chocolates."

Islip Redivivus.

At Bangor Police Court on November 4, John Islip was charged with obtaining credit by fraud from a Bethesda butcher. According to the evidence, Islip, following his usual method, wrote from the "Nursing Home, West Ealing, Middlesex," for several hind-quarters of Welsh mountain lamb. The prosecutor sent two consecutive consignments, but jibbed when the third order arrived. Evidence was given by Detective-sergeant West, of Ealing, among others. Sergeant West said there were no patients at the "Nursing Home" at Ealing. Prisoner, he said, got his living by betting on horses; he had no other occupation. Prisoner cross-examined the witnesses "in a soft, gentle voice." For the defence he submitted that it was a civil debt, and that there was no fraud. He had money in the bank, he said, to pay the amount due. The Chairman said that after hearing the evidence the Magistrates did not consider there was a case to go before a jury. "I thank your Worship," replied Islip, "and I will pay the money tomorrow." We have had reason to chronicle the doings of Mr. Islip on several occasions; the latest reference was found in THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST of April 28, 1906 (p. 624).

ENJOYMENT AND BENEFIT.—The cheerful word invariably accompanies the 10s. subscription to THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST. "I may say," writes a North Country subscriber, "that I enjoy reading the C. & D., and derive much benefit from it."

Welsh News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor, who also invites reports on business changes and other trade matters.

Municipal Honours

have been won by several South Wales chemists. Mr. Jabez A. Jones was re-elected for Roath Ward, Cardiff, by a majority of 574; Mr. Walter Lloyd, of Carmarthen, headed the poll in the contests there; and Mr. William Sambrook, chemist, Monmouth, was re-elected without opposition.

The New Chemical Laboratories

erected at a cost of about 23,000£., and given to the University College of Aberystwith by the family of the late Mr. Edward Davies, of Llandinun, were opened on November 1 by the Right Hon. H. H. Asquith, Chancellor of the Exchequer.

Libellous Letters.

At the Monmouth Assizes on November 2, Florence Elizabeth Joseph was brought up on a warrant for having broken her recognizances which she entered into at the last Assizes, when she promised not to send any more libellous letters to Mr. J. R. Hughes, chemist, Blaenavon, to whom she formerly acted as housekeeper. Counsel stated that the accused had since sent letters couched in filthy language and containing threats to throw vitriol into prosecutor's face. Mr. Justice Jelf sentenced her to six months' imprisonment in the second division, and advised that on the completion of this sentence she should be brought up on the much graver charge of threatening to throw vitriol.

Irish News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland.

At the monthly meeting of the Council of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, held on November 6 at 67 Lower Mount Street, Dublin, Dr. J. A. Walsh, President, occupied the chair at first. The business of the day was the election of officers for the ensuing year. Dr. Walsh proposed, Sir William Baxter seconded, and it was carried that Mr. Smith be elected President. Sir William Baxter was elected Vice-President and Mr. George Beggs was re-elected Hon. Treasurer. A vote of thanks was passed to Dr. Walsh for his efficient services as President during the year, specially for his strenuous work in connection with the proceedings which led to the dropping of the Pharmacy Bill by the Government.

The New President.

Mr. John Smith, M.P.S.I., the new President of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, is a Scot. He is a native of Aberdeenshire, and served his apprenticeship with Messrs. George Reid & Son, of Aberdeen. After leaving Messrs. Reid, with whom he was apprentice and assistant for six years, Mr. Smith migrated to Dublin, entering Evans's pharmacy, then, as now, one of the finest businesses in the capital of Hibernia. Although originally possessed of the idea to return to his native land, Mr. Smith was so comfortable and happy at Evans's that he remained there ten years. Meanwhile he had passed the Minor, taking a short holiday in 1885 to go over to Scotland for that purpose. Three years later he passed the examination of the Pharmaceutical Society of Ireland, and was registered as a pharmaceutical chemist. Eventually Mr. Smith determined to start out on his own account in his adopted country, so he purchased a medical



hall in Rathgar, and so reorganised and metamorphosed the business that it is now one of the best suburban pharmacies in Dublin. The President's pharmacy at 3 Terenure Road, Rathgar, is not particularly imposing externally, but the interior fittings and the evidences of a highly prosperous, high-class dispensing concern are unmistakable enough to make most London pharmacists envious. Mr. Smith has been in close touch with Lower Mount Street for some years. From 1895 to 1900 he was examiner in materia medica and botany for the Pharmaceutical Society. At the end of that term he was elected (in 1901) to a vacancy on the Council. He has been Vice-President of the Council for two years, and during his councillorship he has served on all the important committees, and has acquired a thorough grasp of the affairs of the Society from the inside. Mr. Smith has a reputation for "not saying much, but what he does say is generally worth hearing." In fact, he has lost none of his native "canniness," and the direction of pharmaceutical affairs in Ireland is quite safe in his hands.

A Porter's Accident.

A porter named Walsh, employed by Mr. Tyrie Turner, pharmaceutical chemist, Main Street, Carrick-on-Suir, whilst cleaning the first-floor windows, lost his balance and fell to the ground, a distance of 13 ft. The young man was at once removed to the hospital, where it was found that his hip had been dislocated.

Personal.

Among the names of those who successfully passed the recent examinations of the Royal University of Ireland is that of Mr. John J. Dowling, who obtained the degree of B.A. He also took first place in Experimental Physics and Chemistry, and was awarded an Exhibition (42*l.*) at the same time. He is the youngest son of Mr. J. J. Dowling, Secretary of Messrs. Boileau & Boyd, Ltd., Dublin.

Scotch News.

Local Newspapers containing marked items of news interesting to the Trade are always welcomed by the Editor.

Aberdeen.

Mr. J. R. McHattie, chemist, Torphins, has been elected President of the Torphins Mutual Improvement Society.

Mr. John Alexander, chemist, King Street, is at present indisposed, and has not been able to attend to business for some time.

By permission of the Senatus of Aberdeen University the meetings of the British Pharmaceutical Conference in 1908 will be held in Marischal College Buildings.

Our Aberdeen correspondent informs us that the paragraph in our last issue *re* "the seat of examinations" is based upon misapprehension, for which he is not responsible.

A largely attended meeting of Aberdeen chemists, called to consider the effects of the recent Pharmacy Act prosecutions, was held in Robert Gordon's College on Friday, November 1. Mr. James Spence (President) occupied the chair. The meeting was private, but it is understood that sympathy was expressed with the four chemists concerned, and after a general discussion it was remitted to a small committee to draw up a recommendation to the trade in Aberdeen so that a uniform policy may be adopted.

Glasgow.

Glasgow chemists are still complaining about bad business.

The title of the Universal Chemical Co., Govan, has been changed to the Universal Manufacturing Co., Ltd., Mr. Peter Taylor and Mr. James MacPherson being the joint managing directors.

The Parish Council is much concerned at present about children cleaning their teeth properly, but so far no chemist has used this as a lever for better business in dentifrices and tooth-brushes. "A nod's as guid's a wink," etc.

Mr. William Bonnar, chemist and druggist, Caledonia Road, Glasgow, has participated in correspondence in a local paper regarding shop hours. He thinks "that those chemists who have no home life, no social aspirations, nor any ambition beyond the shop-counter, should be restrained in favour of the great majority who desire to have leisure to

live rationally and associate with their fellow-men and enjoy their society." "And so say all of us" is the local opinion.

Paisley.

Mr. Walker, chemist, is about to open a branch at Broomland, Paisley.

Mr. J. R. T. Leckie has opened another branch pharmacy at Seedhills, Paisley.

Mr. Henry Hannah, chemist, Moss Street, Paisley, is moving into larger and finer premises a little higher up in the same street.

Mr. D. W. Croll, chemist and druggist, who has been over twenty years with Mr. R. T. MacCowan, chemist, Paisley, is leaving Paisley for Guatemala, where he has been appointed chemist on a sugar-plantation. Some friends of Mr. Croll entertained him the other evening, and presented him with a dressing-case and a purse of sovereigns as a token of their esteem.

Personal.

Mr. W. Smart, chemist and druggist, has commenced business on his own account at 15 Randolph Street, Buckhaven.

Mr. J. Buchanan, chemist and druggist, High Street, Leven, Fife, has been elected Vice-President of the local Y.M.C.A.

The library, microscope, optical lantern and slides, &c., which belonged to the late Dr. Henry Bellyse Baidon, University College, Dundee, are to be sold by auction in Dundee on November 19 and 20.

Mr. G. H. C. Rowland has retired from the firm John C. Pottage, homœopathic chemists, 115 Princes Street, Edinburgh, and Mr. Pottage has assumed as a partner Mr. W. L. Graham, chemist, who has been with him for eleven years, and for over seven years has acted as his first assistant. The business will be carried on in future under the name of John C. Pottage & Co. Mr. Rowland is contemplating opening a pharmacy on his own account. He is Secretary of the Edinburgh Chemists' Trade Association, and communications in the meantime should be addressed to 27 Upper Gray Street, Edinburgh.

The Elections.

The following have been elected to Parish Councils: Mr. John Bain, Bridge of Allan; and Mr. Andrew Glen-dinning Laidlaw, Leckerbie.

The following chemists have been elected Town Councillors: Mr. John Peebles, Kirkcaldy; Mr. Thomas Yule, Cowdenbeath; Mr. William Lyle, Rothesay; Mr. Alexander Robertson, Oban; Mr. William Marshall Elliot, Coldstream; Mr. Donald McDougall Skinner, Oban; Mr. William Ramsay Kermath, St. Andrews; Mr. Robert Murray Lawson, Dumfries. A contest was avoided at East Linton through the retirement of Mr. Alexander Stewart, chemist and druggist.

French News.

(From the "C. & D." Paris Correspondent.)

AN ABSCONDING GELATIN MANUFACTURER.—M. Alfred Schweizer, the Officer of the Legion of Honour who disappeared recently, was (states the "Petit Parisien") proprietor of an important gelatin factory which provided this substance to the Assistance Publique (Parisian Poor-law Administration). He appears to have speculated somewhat largely and to have recently had heavy losses. The deficit he left is estimated at 200,000*fr.* (8,000*l.*).

THE INTERNES' ASSOCIATION.—The Amical Association of Internes in Pharmacy of the Paris Hospitals has elected its officers for 1907-8. M. Paul Couroux, of the Tarnier Hospital, is Chairman; the Vice-Chairmen are M. Breton, of St. Antoine, and M. Douris, of the Broca Hospital; while M. Flament, of the Boucicaut Hospital, acts as Secretary, and M. Grosjean, of the Maternité, as Treasurer. The Pitié, Charité, Necker, Cochin, and Ricord hospital pharmaceutical staffs are all represented on the committee.

LUTETIUM is the name of a new element which M. Georges Urbain has discovered in the group of minerals known as rare earths. Professor Haller communicated the fact to

the Academy of Sciences this week. M. Urbain has his laboratory in the Sorbonne, and has been working on the rare earths for several years. He has now found that ytterbium is not an element, as by fractionation he has separated it into two bodies of different atomic weights. These he has called neo-ytterbium and lutetium, the latter in honour of the city of Paris.

APPRENTICES AND ASSISTANTS.—The diminution in the number of pharmacy students in France has been fairly steady and continuous of recent years. The two main facts contributing towards this were the abolition of the second grade certificate and the more recent conscription law which compels the pharmacy student to serve two years in the army like his fellow-citizens; formerly he (and all University students) had but twelve months as compared with the three years of the bulk of the conscripts:—

Superior schools—	1901	1903	1905	1907
Paris	1,410	1,394	1,237	953
Montpellier	233	213	209	159
Nancy	79	67	79	51
	1,722	1,674	1,525	1,163
Four mixed faculties—				
Lyon, Bordeaux, Toulouse, Lille	834	852*	735	572
Four "full exercise" schools	375	485*	405	257
Twelve preparation schools	473	579*	469	298
	3,404	3,590*	3,134	2,290

* The year 1903 was the last for entering for the second-class diploma, and there was consequently an increase at the secondary schools.

DISPENSING ERRORS.—The 1907 report of the Mutual Society of Assurance against Dispensing Accidents, read at the last general meeting, showed a total of 586 policies, or 123 more than in 1906. No claim had been made during 1906, but in the preceding year (1905) a serious accident occurred, the expenses of which were only partially paid off during that year. The 1906 balance-sheet thus showed a payment of 5,983f. in this connection, which, added to 2,409f. of office and administrative expenses, brought up the total outlay to 8,397f. The receipts during the year from members' premiums alone were 7,453f. The original reserve fund formed by donations (13,100f.) has now been increased by 47,478f., so that the total assets amount to 60,578f. After the reading of the report certain modifications in the statutes of the Society were duly discussed and voted upon. The proposal for the admission of outside pharmacists (*i.e.*, those not belonging to the General Association of French Pharmacists) was outvoted. It was decided that in future the policy should cover not only the errors of the pharmacist or his assistant, but "all accidents caused by a medicament delivered by the assured person or his representative." One or two of the figures regarding risks were also modified.

THE QUESTION OF RESPONSIBILITY.—A Parisian reporter has interviewed Dr. Debove, Dean of the Paris Faculty of Medicine, on the question of doctors' responsibility. The Dean pointed out that to hold a doctor entirely responsible would, in some cases, be disadvantageous to the patient. "Take, for instance, a case of facial neuralgia. All has been tried in vain. Aconitine remains as a last resource. But aconitine causes (exceptionally only and to certain patients) mortal accidents, even in doses which other persons could support with perfect impunity. Doctors have several times been prosecuted in this connection. Suppose one were condemned. Do you suppose that those who now prescribe aconitine would continue to do so?" But when, for instance, by inattention the doctor prescribes atropine instead of antipyrin, cyanide of potassium instead of bromide of potassium, here, in the opinion of the Dean, "absent-mindedness, inattention, or carelessness do not completely excuse the doctor, and he is perfectly responsible for the disaster he causes." Dr. Debove might have added that by the fact of physicians not being allowed in France to dispense the medicines they prescribe, except under special conditions, they are frequently saved from annoyance through the pharmacist detecting errors, and discreetly asking for confirmation of ingredients or doses before delivering medicines.

Australasian News.

The fullest information regarding the Australasian drug trade and pharmacy is given in "The Chemist and Druggist of Australasia," copies of which can be obtained at 6d. each, post free, from the office of "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.

Commonwealths.

CUSTOMS DECISIONS.—The following order, dated August 28, has been issued: "Whenever white or red lead is adulterated with chloride of barium or other adulterant, the trade description, if any, must be qualified by the word 'reduced.'"

DUTY ON PHOTOGRAPHIC MATERIALS.—The Acting Prime Minister stated, in reply to a question in the House of Representatives on September 26, that a duty at the rate of 15 per cent. is being charged, and paid under protest, on photographic dry plates and negatives (whether of foreign or British manufacture), notwithstanding that under the new tariff the duty is only 5 per cent. on foreign imports and British imports are free. He explained that the deposit of the higher rate is necessary because at present that is the only duty sanctioned by law. Should the proposed tariff not pass into law, the old rates would necessarily be reverted to. In the event of the new tariff being enacted, all the duties now collected would be refunded, because there would be no legal authority to retain them.

SALE OF OPIUM.—In the House of Representatives on September 27, the Minister of Customs, replying to a question, stated that an order has been issued indicating the quantities of opium deemed sufficient for the ordinary annual requirements of an average chemist's business, and the wholesale distributors, who are to hold a licence to import opium for medicinal purposes, have been informed that the Department expect them to exercise discretion with regard to the supply of opium to retailers, and to bring under notice any increase of demand which may seem questionable. Periodical inspection is to be made of the distributors' books and explanation of the same asked as to any supplies apparently in excess of legitimate requirements. If in any case it is proved that a licensed importer has disregarded reasonable precaution in the distribution of opium, Government will not hesitate to cancel the licence. The Victorian Legislature have passed an Act dealing with the matter, and it is hoped that similar action will before long be taken by the other States.

THE NEW TARIFF.—The following items have been passed by the House of Representatives: Honey, jams, and jellies (including calf's-foot, but not meat jellies) the produce or manufacture of the United Kingdom, 1½d. per lb.; the general tariff is 2d. Liquid and solid annatto, in packages over 1 lb., free. Isinglass, (a) in sheets, free; (b) not elsewhere included, 15 per cent. *ad val.* Rennet, liquid, dry, or in tablet form, in packages of not less than ½ pint, free. Canary, hemp, and rape seeds, 1s. 6d. per cwt.; cottonseed, 4s. per cwt. Cottonseed for the manufacture of cottonseed cake and denatured cottonseed oil may be delivered free as prescribed by departmental by-laws. Un-ground spices, not elsewhere included, 2d. per lb.; ground, not elsewhere included, 4d. per lb. Materials used in manufacturing aerated waters, free. Tea, (a) in packets not exceeding 20 lb., 1d. per lb.; (b) not elsewhere included, free. Item 79 (malt extract, non-spirituous, including peptonised malt extract) was passed. The following items were postponed: Rice, salt, soap, starch, and dextrin and starch flours.

New Zealand.

METHYLATED SPIRIT BILL.—The Minister of Customs, in introducing this measure in the House of Representatives, stated that the importation of methylated spirit has rapidly increased to 70,000 gals., which is more than could be used in the manufactures of the Colony. He had seen samples of very highly purified methylated spirit, and though two years before he opposed a similar measure, he now felt it was necessary to prevent fraud on the Customs revenue and on *bona-fide* manufacturers. Essence of lemon is being sold at 18s. a gal., whereas if properly made in bond it could not be sold for less than 26s.

THE NEW TARIFF.—The following amendments have been made to the original proposals: Cocoa-butter, cocoanut-butter, and other refined vegetable butters or fats, altered from 20 per cent. to 1*d.* per lb.; surgeons', physicians', dental, and optical instruments and appliances, not otherwise enumerated, altered from 20 per cent. to the free list. The following have also been placed on the free list: arsenates, sodium peroxide, thorium salts, zirconium and other rare metals and salts, solutions or mixtures of the same suitable for the manufacture of incandescent mantles. The term "surgeons' and dentists' materials" in the free list has been widened out by the addition of the words "also for appliances and materials peculiar to dental or surgical use as may be from time to time enumerated in any order of the Minister."

PURE FOOD BILL.—On the motion that the Legislative Council should resolve into committee on the Bill, the Hon. Mr. George stated that Dr. Mason, Chairman of the Board of Health, had assured him that the passing of the Bill would have no effect as regards the importation of proprietary medicines. The hon. member thought there was a clause in the Bill authorising the Governor-in-Council to make regulations, and these might be made to provide that the formula of the contents should be upon each bottle of proprietary medicines imported into the Colony. This would have the effect of largely preventing importation. The Bill went in the right direction, but proprietary medicines should not be mixed up in it. He declared his intention of moving that the word "drug" should be struck out. This was done, and the committee divided with twenty-two votes that the word "drug" should remain, and five votes against. On Clause 16, defining adulteration, among other things, as mixing with any substance which diminishes its beneficial properties, the Hon. Mr. Sinclair moved that the following proviso should be added:

Provided that nothing herein contained shall prevent the reduction in strength or dilution with water of any substance used in a prescription made up by a duly registered chemist.

Progress was reported.

South Australia.

FOOD AND DRUGS ACT AMENDMENT BILL.—This Bill, introduced in October 1905, and which failed to pass, was reintroduced on September 17. It is apparently identical in every respect with the previous Bill. The word "drug" has the following extended definition:

"Drug" shall mean any substance used for or in the composition or preparation of medicine, whether for internal or external use, and includes any preservative, antiseptic, disinfectant, deodorant, narcotic, and cosmetic.

Power is taken under Clause 55 to make regulations for any purpose for which in the opinion of the Governor they are contemplated or required by the Act, including, among other things, the purposes following:

1. The inspection and analysis of drugs, chemicals, patent medicines, and proprietary articles.
2. Regulating and fixing the standards of food and drugs that may be sold, and of the several ingredients of any such food or drug.
6. Regulating and fixing the wording of labels on any articles of foods and drugs, including patent medicines and proprietary articles.
7. The regulation and restriction and conditions of the sale of poisons.

Victoria.

BUSINESS DELAYED BY TARIFF.—At a meeting of the Melbourne Chamber of Commerce on September 24, it was pointed out that the delay in settling the tariff is having a most serious effect on business, and unless a speedy settlement takes place the position of importers will become very acute. Bond-storage accommodation is being seriously taxed, and unless the Government defer consideration of any other matter until the tariff is finally passed, the present unsettled condition of affairs will have a most serious effect on the commercial community throughout Australia.

DISINFECTANT-MANUFACTURERS of Victoria have formed themselves into a separate branch of the Chamber of Manufactures, with Mr. F. A. Hancock, of W. M. White & Son, South Melbourne, as chairman, and Mr. F. L. W. Ashby as secretary *pro tem*. This is the result of the operations of

the Pure Food Act and the new regulations under the Poisons Act. At a representative meeting on September 20 it was reported, after interviews with the Chairman of the Public Health Department and the Registrar of the Pharmacy Board, that the new regulations only provide that the bottle shall be distinguishable by touch from an ordinary medicine bottle, and do not require that the provisions of the Poisons Act should be observed except in those cases where scheduled poisons are present in the disinfectant. The committee have decided to recommend an entirely new design of bottle, which can be adopted for soluble phenyle in 6-oz., 16-oz., and 20-oz. sizes. Recent tests by Dr. R. J. Bull, M.D., B.S., Director of the Bacteriological Laboratory, Melbourne, have proved that samples obtained from local manufacturers and tested by him are far superior to many much advertised importations. The imports of disinfectants increased from 29,611*l.* in 1903 to 52,534*l.* in 1906. The meeting resolved to urge that the duty recently imposed on raw materials should be removed, and that a duty of 2*s.* per gal. should be imposed on imported manufactured disinfectants and sheep-dips.

Western Australia.

SALVITIS.—The properties of salvitis were discussed in the Supreme Court on September 3 and 5. A poultry farmer had purchased a 50-lb. box of salvitis, which was administered to 400 head of poultry, and 150*l.* worth died or were injured. Damages were claimed for: birds killed, 95*l.* 2*s.*; birds injured, 49*l.* 17*s.*; nursing and medicine, 34*l.* 8*s.* 9*d.*; loss of egg-production, 139*l.* Mr. Henry Rowley, analyst, said the birds on *post-mortem* were found to have suffered from intestinal irritation. Salvitis contained 90 per cent. of salt, 8 per cent. of bone dust, and 2 per cent. of moisture, an aromatic cinnamon-like powder, and a yellow colouring matter. The jury were unable to agree, and were discharged.

South African News.

(From "C. & D." Correspondents.)

Natal.

BUSINESS CHANGE.—Messrs. Warren Bros., who have been in business as chemists in Durban for over five years, have disposed of their two businesses to Mr. David Anderson.

MAW'S MAN.—Mr. P. W. Surman, of "Maw's," is at present in Durban (wrote our Natal correspondent on October 13), where he is showing the largest stock of druggists' sundries ever placed before local chemists, at least 8,000 articles being laid out at the sample-rooms of the Marine Hotel. Mr. Surman is proud of being able to say that he is on speaking terms with more English-speaking chemists than any other "ambassador of commerce" on the road. Generally speaking the business barometer in Natal still reads "quiet."

MR. BRERETON'S AFFAIRS.—This complicated case, to which frequent allusion has been made in this column, entered on another phase on October 7, when two applications were heard before Mr. Justice Beaumont at Durban, one for an order disapproving of a resolution of the creditors of Mr. H. J. Brereton, chemist and druggist, authorising the insolvent to trade, and the other to set aside a resolution of the creditors abandoning the furniture in the estate. After hearing counsel his Lordship dismissed the first application with costs, and allowed the second application, ordering the costs to come out of the estate.

Transvaal.

SHOP HOURS.—According to the Government notice issued regarding Shop Hours Regulations, the hour of closing for chemists and druggists shall be not later than 8 P.M. on Monday, Tuesday, Thursday, and Friday; 1.30 P.M. on Wednesday; and 9 P.M. on Saturday. Clause 3 provides that "in any shop where the business of a chemist and druggist is carried on a prescription of a medical practitioner may be compounded, or the requirements directed by a medical practitioner may be supplied at any hour, upon special demand."

Legal Reports.

Trade Law.

Shop-hours Act.—An important question under the Shop-hours Act, 1904, was brought before Mr. Justice Joyce in the Chancery Division of the High Court on October 31. The Corporation of Brighton had made under the Act an order requiring hairdressers' premises to be closed at 2 P.M. on Thursdays. A minority of hairdressers in the town objected, and took action in the High Court on the ground, among others, that the Act requires closing orders to be made in respect of the several days of the week. The objectors pointed out that ladies' hairdressers would be seriously affected by being unable to serve their customers on the prohibited afternoon, and further that chemists and others who deal in hairdressing accessories would be able to compete with hairdressers on unfair terms. These arguments had little effect with his Lordship, who dismissed the action because it was misconceived, and he over-ruled the objection that an early-closing order which applies to only one day per week is *ultra vires*. His opinion on that point coincided with the view of the Home Office expressed in a circular issued in 1904, that the order may range from a general holiday for one day in the week to more elaborate schemes.

Dentists Act, 1878.

THREE FINES INFLICTED.

At Old Street Police Court, London, on October 31, Mr. Clewer heard an action by the London and County Medical Protection Society, Ltd., against H. M. Hanreek, Bethnal Green Road; Joseph Letchau, Whitechapel Road; and Joseph Weinberg, Whitechapel Road, for contravention of the Dentists Act, 1878, by the use of styles and titles implying that they were registered under the Act. Mr. G. H. Young appeared for the prosecutors. Dr. Hugh Woods (Secretary of the Society), in his evidence stated that at Mr. Hanreek's premises he found exhibited the name "H. Hanreek, surgeon-dentist," while above the door and inside was the description "G. Hanreek, practical dentist." Witness stated that Mr. Letchau was a chemist, but we do not find his name in the Register of Chemists and Druggists. Letchau exhibited the words "surgeon-dentist," and Weinberg had a frame with the word "dentist" and a pile of teeth in his window. Mr. Percy Robinson, who appeared for Hanreek, stated that his client's father was a registered dentist, and the sign referred to had been used by him previous to his death in 1889. The defendant had not removed it, but he had no idea that he was infringing the Act. Letchau, who was not legally represented, explained to the Magistrate that he held Berlin and Vienna qualifications, and thought they covered practice in England. On behalf of Weinberg, Mr. A. J. David, barrister-at-law, submitted that the use of the word "dentist" alone does not necessarily imply that the person using it is a registered dentist. He further pointed out that his client had been carrying on business since 1872, and had neglected to register under the Act. Mr. Clewer over-ruled Mr. David's contention in regard to the use of the word "dentist," and found the charges against all the defendants proved. He imposed the full penalty of 20*l.* against Hanreek and Letchau, with three guineas costs in each case, and Weinberg he fined 10*l.*, and three guineas costs (the reduction in this case was owing to the fact that he was in practice before the Act was passed.)

A COMPANY RESTRAINED FROM USING THE TITLE "DENTIST."
In the *C. & D.*, March 9, p. 380, was reported a preliminary motion in the Chancery Division of the Dublin High Court in the actions by the Attorney-General against Henry J. Bradlaw and others with respect to the use of the title "dentist" by the company Henry J. Bradlaw, Surgeon-Dentist, Ltd. Several stages in the proceedings have since been passed, and the Master of the Rolls heard the last of the arguments and gave judgment last week, restraining the company in the terms hereinafter stated. The hearing took place on Wednesday, Thursday, and Friday, October 30 and 31, and November 1, in the Rolls Court, Dublin. The Attorney-General took action at the relation of Mr. Kevin O'Duffy (who is the Hon. Secretary of the Irish Branch of the British Dental Association), against the company known as Henry J. Bradlaw, Surgeon-Dentist, Ltd., and Mr. Henry J. Bradlaw, Isidore J. Bradlaw, John Alex-

ander, Philip Bradlaw Phillips, William Collier, Thomas G. Goepell, John J. Blakely, and Francis Chandler. Counsel for the relator were Messrs. Ronan, K.C., Samuels, K.C., and Gerald FitzGibbon, B.L. Counsel for the defendant Phillips were Messrs. O'Brien, K.C., and Collins, B.L.; and for the defendant company Messrs. Matheson, K.C., Brown, K.C., and Rosenthal.

Mr. Samuels stated that the action was brought—

1. For an injunction to restrain the defendant company from advertising for custom under, and from taking or using the name, style, addition, or description of surgeon-dentist, or any name calculated to induce the public to believe that the business carried on by the company is conducted or carried on by a person registered under the Dentists Act.
2. A declaration that the defendant company was not formed for a lawful purpose under the provisions of the Companies Acts, 1862 to 1900.
3. An injunction to restrain the defendant company, and the directors and members thereof, from using the title "dentist," either alone or in combination in the memorandum of association, or any documents filed pursuant to the Companies Acts.
4. An injunction to restrain the defendant company from carrying on the business of dentists under the memorandum of association.
5. An injunction to restrain the directors and members of the defendant company from allowing the company to remain registered under its present memorandum of association or name containing the words "dentist" or "surgeon-dentist"; and (6) further relief.

The case, as the time occupied indicates, was argued at great length, and in the course of the argument for defendants the case of the Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain *v.* The London and Provincial Supply Association, Ltd., was cited. The history of the defendant company was also fully related, the facts being recorded in the above-mentioned issue of the *C. & D.* The company was registered on October 30, 1903, with a capital of 2,000*l.*, Henry J. Bradlaw holding all shares except six. Mr. Bradlaw was at the time registered as a dentist, but his name was removed from the register by order of the General Medical Council on November 26, 1903, for advertising (see *C. & D.*, December 5, 1903, p. 929).

At the close of the argument on November 1 the Master of the Rolls delivered judgment, saying that to his mind as a jurist it was so clear that he would prefer to give judgment in the presence of the parties offhand. The view he took was that the defendant company, and the shareholders and directors of such, were at the time the action was instituted, and had been for some time, perpetrating, as stated by an eminent Judge in another case, an audacious fraud upon the public. The name, style, and title of the company was a false representation scattered broadcast through the length and breadth of Ireland, staring in the face every person who passed through Harcourt Street in Dublin and in other towns in Ireland. The name that appeared on the brass plate of 78 Harcourt Street—it did not matter as to the size of the lettering—by which this limited company sought to attract customers was the name of "Henry J. Bradlaw, Surgeon Dentist, Limited." It was proved overwhelmingly in this case that the name, style, and title of this company involved at the date of the action a false statement, meant and intended to deceive the public. The individual knew he was not a surgeon-dentist, as his name had been erased from the register long before this action. It was the duty of the Attorney-General to protect the public against unqualified persons. On the name alone he held the public were appealed to that there was a qualified dentist, who would receive fees as the result of his services. His Lordship would not discuss the advertisements, but the clear-cut impression on any man who read them was one amounting to practical certainty that a person, an individual, named Henry J. Bradlaw, was to be the real operator. It was not necessary for the Attorney-General to show that an individual incurred loss. Mr. Bradlaw may have been, and may still be, an excellent worker, as good, perhaps, as any medical practitioner who had not been instructed in dentistry. He would grant an injunction restraining the defendant company from advertising for custom under, or from taking or using, the name, addition, or description of surgeon-dentist, etc., reasonably calculated to induce the public or persons dealing with the defendant company to believe that the business carried on by the said

company was conducted or carried on by a person or persons registered under the Dentists Act, 1878, or specially qualified to practise dentistry. He also granted an injunction to restrain the defendant company and the directors and members thereof from using the title "dentist" either alone or in combination with any other word or words in the memorandum of association of the said company, or any returns or documents filed, pursuant to the Companies Acts, with the Registrar of Joint-stock Companies. His Lordship declared that the Attorney-General was entitled to the general costs of the action, but in so far as the costs had been increased by charges of fraud in the formation of the company, the defendants were entitled to relief against the relator. Mr. Phillips would not have to pay costs incurred after he had put in his amended defence.

Sale of Food and Drugs Acts.

SWEET NITRE.

A MORCOTT TRADER named Edpon was fined 10s. on November 4 for selling spirit of nitre deficient in ethyl nitrite.

At Rotherham on November 4, John William Poles, of Wentworth, was fined 20s., and costs, for selling sweet spirit of nitre which was below the B.P. standard of strength.

MILK OF SULPHUR.

At Oakham on November 4, John Kirby, Scaton, was fined 10s. for selling milk of sulphur not of B.P. strength.

BORIC ACID IN CREAM.

MR. ROBERT WALLACE, K.C., and other Justices sat at the Sessions House, Clerkenwell, on October 31, to hear adjourned appeals. One of them was by Mr. W. H. Cullen against a conviction by Mr. Curtis Bennett, fining him 2l., with 12s. 6d. costs, under Section 3 of the 1875 Act, for selling a pot of cream which contained approximately 22 grains of boric acid per lb. Distinguished counsel were engaged on both sides, and for the respondents evidence was given by Mr. Charles Cassal (public analyst for Westminster), Mr. Reginald Harrison, F.R.C.S., Professor Haliburton (of King's College), and Dr. Wilson. The hearing was adjourned until November 8.

MACE.

At Houghton Police Court on November 7, John Wakefield, grocer, Hetton, was summoned for selling mace which contained 40 per cent. of wild or Bombay mace. Mr. Scott Elder, Chief Inspector, deposed to purchasing the sample, which was supplied to him from a tin labelled "Genuine ground mace, finest quality." The analysis was proved. Mr. J. Morton, of Sunderland, defended, and pleaded guilty, but said his client sold the article as he bought it. He had not a written warranty. Defendant said he bought the mace from Pearman & Corder, who bought it from London. Mr. Morton said he also represented Pearman & Corder, and they had a written guarantee. A fine of 5l. and costs was imposed.

TARTARIC ACID.

WM. WAKEFIELD, grocer, Hetton, was charged at the same time with selling tartaric acid containing 9 per cent. of cream of tartar. It transpired that the tartaric acid and cream of tartar were kept in the same drawer with a partition between, and a witness admitted that it was possible to make a mistake. A fine of 20s. was imposed.

County Court Cases.

MOTOR-CAR AND CHEMIST'S TRAP.

At the Sheffield County Court on October 31, Mr. Humphrey Davy, chemist and druggist, Rotherham, sued Charles W. Eglen, Upwell Street, Sheffield, for 30l. damages caused to plaintiff's light cart as a result of defendant's negligent driving of a motor-car. There was a counter-claim for 9l. 3s. 6d. damages to the motor-car. Judge Benson heard the evidence, which included that of a boy named Baker, who had taken out the plaintiff's trap. He admitted that he was in the middle of the road, and that it was while he was turning

to his proper side of the road that the collision occurred. After this evidence the case was settled, both claim and counter-claim being withdrawn, and plaintiff agreed to pay 1l. 1s. to Mrs. Eglen towards her doctor's bill.

BEER V. DRUGS.

A SMALL piece of abutting wall in King Street, adjoining the shop of Messrs. Newham & Co., chemists and druggists, was the subject of an action heard by Judge Benson, at the Sheffield County Court on October 31. Mr. Frederic John Brett, Leicester, leased from the executors of the late Mr. John Richdale, brewer, the premises which are used as a chemist's shop, and at the time a painted advertisement belonging to Newham & Co. was on the wall. The brewery company painted this out, and replaced it by one about "Pure Beers." Mr. Brett protested, and an arrangement was arrived at. Mr. Brett painted on another advertisement, but the brewery company went through the same process as before, and again "Pure Beers" were advertised. Then he commenced this action. His Honour reserved judgment.

TOOTH-EXTRACTION CASE.

At Colchester County Court on October 30, Judge Tindal Atkinson heard evidence and gave judgment in a case wherein a Mrs. Salmon sued Mr. C. F. Aldrich, chemist, of Brightlingsea, for 5l. damages for alleged negligence in extracting a tooth. In the course of the hearing Dr. Gosling and Dr. Dickin spoke of defendant's skill in extracting teeth. The Judge, in awarding plaintiff 10s. 6d., said the case was a trifling one, and his decision did not cast any reflection on defendant's reputation. [The name Aldrich does not appear on the Register of Chemists and Druggists.—EDITOR.]

Bankruptcies and Failures.

Re ALBERT EDWARD HUMPHREYS, trading as a Chemist and Tobacconist at 82 High Street, Portmadoc, Carnarvonshire.—On November 4, at the offices of the Official Receiver (Mr. L. Leigh Jones), Chester, a meeting was held of the creditors under this failure. In debtor's statement his gross liabilities are given as 396l. 12s. 9d., but the amount that is expected to rank for dividend is 286l. 9s. 5d., with assets estimated to produce 59l. 5s. 9d. The receiving-order was made on debtor's own petition, and he was adjudicated bankrupt on October 14. He is forty-five years of age, and has been trading as a chemist and druggist and as a tobacconist since 1892. Debtor says his failure is due to "No capital and bad trade." The case was left in the hands of the Official Receiver. The public examination will take place on Tuesday, November 12, at the police-court, Portmadoc.

Re ARTHUR FREDERICK EASTMEAD, 173 Eastgate, Rochester, Photographer.—The public examination of this debtor took place at Rochester Bankruptcy Court on November 4 on gross liabilities amounting to 216l. 18s. 5d. and having a deficiency given in the statement of 156l. 7s. 11d., but which is in reality much more, owing to a claim of rent from the landlord of his premises. Replying to the Official Receiver (Mr. R. S. Latham), debtor said the cause of his failure was chiefly through illness and having given too much for his business. Debtor was invalided from the Royal Naval Service (after twenty-two years' odd time) on account of suffering from malarial fever. For some months past he had suffered again through taking sulphate of zinc instead of Epsom salts (see *C. & D.*, August 24, p. 326). The zinc sulphate, of which he took 1 oz., was sold to him in mistake by a local chemist, and the effect of taking it was that it lacerated the stomach, and for four days he was continually vomiting. Debtor said he believed there was an action pending, the chemist seeking to sue the firm that sold the goods to him. The Official Receiver: Then you ought to have a "look-in" there if the chemist is going to get something. Have you ever thought of bringing an action against the chemist?—Debtor: No, being in the line myself I know how easy it is to make a mistake. The Official Receiver: That is all the more reason why the chemist should be careful.—The Debtor: He was careful; I don't think for a moment that he was in fault. I believe it was sold to him as Epsom salts. The Official Receiver: Has he asked you to appear as a witness to prove that you got some of this stuff?—The Debtor: I believe the firm won't acknowledge their liability up to now. It's no use a little man fighting a big man, he will be bound to lose his case.—After various other questions relating to his affairs, the debtor was allowed to pass.

New Companies and Company News.

H. GREEN & SON, LTD.—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of oil manufacturers and refiners carried on by H. Green & Son at Medlock Works, Holt Town, Manchester, and to adopt an agreement with A. H. Green. A. H. Green is managing director for life. Registered office, Medlock Works, Holt Town, Manchester.

CHINAWAYS SYPHON CO., LTD.—Capital 5,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in syphons, gasogenes, bottles, jars, and all kinds of glass, china, and earthenware vessels, stoppers and fastenings, mineral-water manufacturers, etc. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 35 King's Road, St. Pancras, N.W.

ESFON, LTD.—Capital 2,500*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the rights in a certain food in powder-form sold as "Esfon," and the business connected therewith, to manufacture and deal in patent foods and preparations, and to carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalter, etc. The first directors are J. G. Ebbard-Vogt, J. I. Goldsack, and F. Grans. Registered office, 12-13 Henrietta Street, W.C.

P. DIAMOND, LTD.—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of dealers in plant, machines, vessels, syphons, filters, bottles, apparatus and receptacles of all kinds for manufacturing, improving, treating, preserving, fining, aerating, mineralising, bottling, and discharging mineral waters and other liquids, etc. No initial public issue. The first directors are P. Diamond, H. Diamond, and R. Diamond. Registered office, 167 Cannon Street Road, E.

FLETCHER'S (SHIPLEY), LTD.—Capital 20,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares (5,000 6-per-cent. cumulative preference). Objects: To acquire the business of a wholesale drysalter, sauce-manufacturer, and glass-bottle manufacturer carried on by T. Fletcher at Aire-dale Works, Shipley, Yorks, as "W. Fletcher & Sons," and to carry on the same. The first subscribers are: T. Fletcher, Silsden, coal-factor; J. P. Fletcher, Shipley, drysalter; and G. W. Fletcher, Shipley, coal-factor. Registered office, Aire-dale Works, Shipley.

ACME TEETH MANUFACTURING AND TRADING CO., LTD.—Capital 4,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To acquire the business carried on at 50 West Ham Lane, Stratford, E., by W. H. Coleman, J. E. Delayne, and A. H. White, as the "Acme Teeth Co." and the "Acme Clothing Co." respectively, and to carry on the business of manufacturers of and dealers in artificial teeth and dental appliances, extractors and stoppers of teeth, clothiers, drapers, etc. The first directors are W. H. Coleman, J. E. Delayne, and A. H. White. Registered office, 50 West Ham Lane, Stratford, E.

W. CLARK, LTD.—Capital 12,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To take over the business of a manufacturer of clipping-machines operated by motive and hand power and other machinery used in connection with horses or other animals and persons, manufacturer of embrocation, drugs, medicines, polishes, stains, and other preparations, etc., carried on at 528 Oxford Street and 2 Stourcliffe Street, London, and elsewhere, as "W. Clark," and to adopt an agreement with W. T. Clark and E. J. Pidduck, surviving executors and trustees of the will of the late W. Clark. The first directors are W. T. Clark (managing director), E. J. Pidduck, and J. Blaiberg. Registered office, 528 Oxford Street, W.

CHEMICAL RESEARCH SYNDICATE, LTD.—Capital 500*l.*, in 1*s.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of scientific or manufacturing chemists, manufacturers of and dealers in medicines, foods, wines, spirits, chemical products, and commodities, etc. The first subscribers are: F. B. Broadway, 63-64 Chancery Lane, W.C., journalist; J. S. Little, 223 Selhurst Road, S. Norwood, accountant; H. Bax, 21 Park Avenue, Wood Green, accountant; E. Rees, 311 Grove Green Road, Leytonstone, gentleman; H. G. Haydon, 32 Great St. Helens, E.C., incorporated accountant; L. Haydon, Alfriston, Edith Road, W. Kensington, W., article clerk; and G. A. Heard, 28 Radford Road, Hither Green, clerk. Registered without articles of association.

COFMAN & ACHNER, LTD.—Capital 2,000*l.*, in 1*l.* shares. Objects: To carry on the business of chemists, druggists, drysalter, oil and colour men, opticians, manufacturers of electrical, surgical, and scientific apparatus, etc. The first subscribers are: C. A. Cofman, M.P.S., 41 Hart Street, Bloomsbury, W.C.; A. Achner, Ph.D., 196 Holland Road, W. Kensington, Magister of Pharmacie (Vienna); G. Cofman, 41 Hart Street, Bloomsbury, W.C., pharmaceutical student; B. Rosenweig, M.P.S., 36 King Street, Blackpool; W. L. Francis, M.P.S., 236 Clapham Road, S.W.; E. Senchia, 88 Gloucester Street, S.W., Licentiate in Pharmacy; and R. Graham, Ph.C., Cranmer House, Norton-on-Tees. No initial public issue. Registered without articles of association. Registered office, 113 Leadenhall Street, E.C.

BRITISH AND COLONIAL CAMPHOR CO., LTD.—Capital 100,000*l.*, in 30,000 "A" and 70,000 "B" shares of 1*l.* each. Objects: To adopt an agreement with La Compagnie Française du Camphre, and to carry on the business of manufacturers, distillers, and refiners of, dealers in and agents for the sale of camphor, celluloid, and turpentine and their derivatives, any chemical or other substances capable of being used in substitution therefor, and any of the by-products thereof. The first subscribers are: R. J. White, The Firs, Peckham Road, London, manufacturer; A. E. Brown, B.Sc.(Lond.), 55 Avenue Road, N.W., engineer; J. Fenton, 36 Kingscliffe Gardens, Wimbledon, S.W., gentleman; M. Huwart, rue des Augustins 36, Liège, Belgium; M. Lambert, 39 rue des Guillemins, Liège, Belgium, docteur en droit; Baron Felix Chazal, 4 Avenue de la Toison d'Or, Brussels, manufacturer; and A. Jonckheere, 61 St. Mary's Road, Peckham, S.E., manager. No initial public issue. The subscribers are to appoint the first directors. Qualification, 1,000*l.* Remuneration, 100*l.* each per annum (chairman 500*l.* extra). The "A" shares rank first for 6 per cent. dividend and participate *pari passu* with the "B" shares in any surplus after 6 per cent. has been paid on the latter also.

BORAX CO., LTD.—The directors of the Borax Co., Ltd., announce a dividend of 3*d.* per share, free of income-tax.

INTERNATIONAL PLASMON, LTD.—The accounts for the year to June 30 show, including 1,213*l.* brought down, net profits of 2,943*l.*, which is to be carried forward.

CASTNER-KELLNER ALKALI CO., LTD.—The directors have declared a dividend at the rate of 16 per cent. per annum for the six months ended September 30 last, making 12 per cent. for the year.

ELECTROLYTIC ALKALI CO., LTD.—Shareholders of this company, whose headquarters are at Middlewich, Cheshire, were in a dissatisfied mood at their annual meeting at the Exchange Station Hotel, Liverpool, on November 4. The year's profit, something over 8,000*l.*, should, it was suggested by the directors, be utilised in paying half-a-year's interest at the rate of 7 per cent. to the preference holders, to whom two and a-half years' interest had accrued. One shareholder moved that a year's interest be paid, while another suggested that no dividend at all be declared. "Put it all in the reserve," he added; "for you will want it for your coal-bills." By a large majority the preference shareholders were given the half-a-year's interest. Several members criticised the manufacturing methods of the company, and one contended that the best way to get rid of the present "cut-throat policy" was for the company to be absorbed by some other concern. Mr. C. C. Connor (chairman of the directors) said they had not been approached on that matter, but they were ready to consider any proposition of that kind which would be to the advantage of the shareholders.

Business Changes.

MR. W. J. HUNTER, chemist and druggist, has taken over the business of Mr. Bartlett, Axbridge.

MR. J. T. BELLAMY, chemist and druggist, has purchased Mr. Broome's business at Chelmsford, Essex.

MR. HENRY HOLLOWAY, druggist, 22 and 23 High Street, Walsall, is giving up the wholesale branch of his business.

MR. F. H. KING, chemist and druggist, late of Cheltenham, has purchased the business of Messrs. Nowell & Hyslop at 65 Chamberlayne Wood Road, Kensal Rise, N.W.

MR. CHARLES JONES, for sixteen years manager with Messrs. Boots, Ltd., has purchased the business at Warbreck Moor, Aintree, as lately carried on by Messrs. Hume & Co.

THE partnership existing between E. R. Brickell and J. Jones, trading as Brickell & Jones, chemists, 295 High Road, Brondesbury, N.W., has been dissolved, Mr. J. Jones retiring.

MR. WALTER HAIGH, pharmaceutical chemist, formerly of the Ripponden district, contemplates relinquishing the retail business, and his shop, which he has on a lease, is announced to let.

MR. T. E. CAREY BATES, whose retirement from Messrs. S. Figgis & Co. we announced last week, has been admitted a partner in the firm of Messrs. French & Plucknett, produce brokers, 7 Mincing Lane, E.C., as from November 1.

MR. L. CROOKALL, chemist and druggist, who has been managing the business of the late Mr. A. Berridge, of Cheapside, Leicester, has resigned that appointment, and has been succeeded by Mr. H. E. Clarke, chemist and druggist, from Heckmondwike.

Marriages.

APLIN—CROLY.—At Holy Trinity Church, Rathmines, on November 2, by the Rev. Canon Harris, M.A., rector of the parish, Edgar B. Aplin, director of Messrs. Aplin, Thackeray & Co., Ltd., chemists, Queen Street, Dublin, to A. Croly, daughter of the late Mr. Thomas Croly, D.C., Dublin.

RICHARDSON—THOMSON.—At the Central Hotel, Aberdeen, on October 25, by the Rev. W. Adams, B.D., New Deer, Thomas Richardson, Peterhead, to Alice Mary, daughter of Mr. George Thomson, chemist, New Deer.

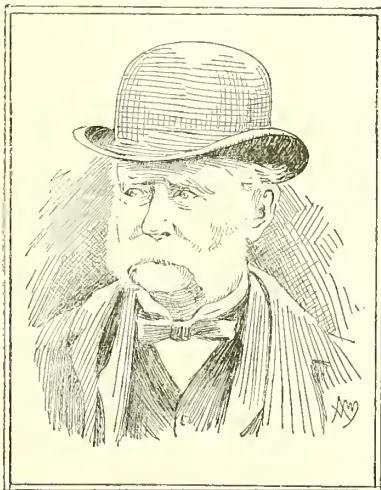
YANDALL—SMITH.—At the Unitarian Chapel, Taunton, on November 3, by the Rev. R. Davis, B.A., Chas. Yandall (Yandall, Ltd., Taunton), to Fanny, elder daughter of Mr. A. J. Smith, chemist, Taunton.

Deaths.

BENTLEY.—At 11 Belmont Drive, Newsham Park, Liverpool, on October 27, after long suffering patiently borne, Amelia, the dearly beloved wife of Edward H. Bentley (Ayrton, Saunders & Kemp, Ltd.).

HINE.—At Beaminster, recently, the death took place of Mrs. Eliza Barratt Hine, whose husband carried on business as a chemist in the town for many years, as did his father and grandfather before him. Mrs. Hine was seventy-six years of age.

RILEY.—Death has removed a familiar Nottingham figure in the person of Mr. Thomas Riley, who carried on business as a chemist and druggist at 37 Barker Gate. The deceased gentleman had reached the ripe age of eighty-four, and was the oldest chemist in the city. He was possessed of remarkable vitality, and was as well known for his wonderful fund of anecdote as for his largeness of heart and geniality. During his life-time he saw Nottingham grow from a fairly large market to a large centre of industry, and he was endowed with such an extraordinary memory that he was regarded by many as quite an authority on local history. He was especially the friend of the poor, and his memory will be held dear by many who were in distress and came to him for help. He was apprenticed to the late Dr. Burrows at the age of thirteen, and about fifteen years later set up a chemist's shop in Bellar Gate. Subsequently he opened the shop in Barker Gate, which,



like his former premises, was situated in one of the poorer quarters of the city. Everybody in the district knew him, and he was several times pressed to take a part in municipal government, but he preferred to remain in the background. A story is told of him that, when during the bread riots the mob were undecided as to what action they should take, he was called in, as being the first available boy, to toss up whether the rioters should burn Nottingham Castle

or St. Mary's Church, and that, through the coin which he was given to spin coming down "heads," the Castle was burnt down. This tale has been freely circulated in the daily Press, but it is discredited by local authorities, who have failed to find that there was ever any intention to burn down the church. There is no doubt, however, that young Riley was in the mob.

SCOTT.—At Sandy, Beds., on October 26, after a long and painful illness, Mr. William Henry Scott, chemist and druggist. Mr. Scott was in business at Sandy for over forty years.

SLOMAN.—At Higher Union Street, Torquay, on October 28, Mr. Richard Sloman, chemist and druggist, aged sixty years. Mr. Sloman was one of the oldest chemists in Torquay, and was much respected by all who knew him. He took great interest in the proceedings of the Torquay Chemists' Association, and was formerly a president of that body. He was associated in business with one of his sons, who now succeeds him. He had also a son a chemist in business at Exeter. The Torquay Chemists' Association sent a wreath of choice flowers out of respect to the memory of their late colleague.

WILLIAMS.—At Chepstow, on October 27, Mr. Henry Augustus Williams, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-five.

WILSON.—At Crowle, near Doncaster, on September 1, Mr. Thomas William Wilson, chemist and druggist, aged sixty-two.

Trade Notes.

The proprietor of Beecham's Pills is offering seasonable advertising novelties, which our readers will find useful for distribution to customers at Christmas-time. Applications for parcels should be addressed to St. Helens.

ANOTHER HONOUR.—At the recent Grocers' and Bakers' Exhibition held in St. George's Hall, Liverpool, a diploma for gold medal was awarded to Messrs. Wm. Gardner & Sons (Gloucester), Ltd., for their "Rapid" sifters and mixers.

THE JOSEPHS LIMERICK.—As there appears to be some doubt on the subject, Messrs. Philip Josephs & Sons, of Old Street, E.C., desire us to state that extra coupons and full particulars regarding their Limerick competition may be obtained by writing to the firm direct. The competition is becoming fast and furious, and the last day for sending in coupons is November 25.

"CHEMICAL" is the name given by Mr. Robert Blackie, Shen Works, Tower Bridge Road, London, S.E., to a combination of Parrish's food and emulsion of cod-liver oil with hypophosphites of lime of soda. It is a nice pink emulsion, and supplies a want, the oil and phosphates frequently going together for children. Mr. Blackie supplies Chemical in bulk and packed in white panel Mexicans in all sizes.

TOILET FIXTURES.—We have had the opportunity of inspecting samples of the fixtures for toilet rolls made by Messrs. Cox, Wilcox & Co., Chequers Walk, Birmingham, and sold by them to the wholesale and export trade. These fittings are made in several styles, such as lacquered tin, oxidised silver, or Florentine finishes, and are excellent value for the prices charged. The firm also make a speciality of wire gauze for chemical purposes, strainers, and tea infusers.

RUBWEL.—The Rubwel Co., 34 Seedley Road, Pendleton, Manchester, have introduced a shilling size of their popular preparation for chapped hands, etc. It is enclosed in an attractive carton. The introduction of Rubwel has resulted in a phenomenal success. The manufacturers tell us that their last order was for 6,000 gross of the 2d. size. Messrs. Locke, Tomsitt & Co., Red Cross Street, London, E.C., are now the sole agents for the South of England, the Colonies, and foreign countries.

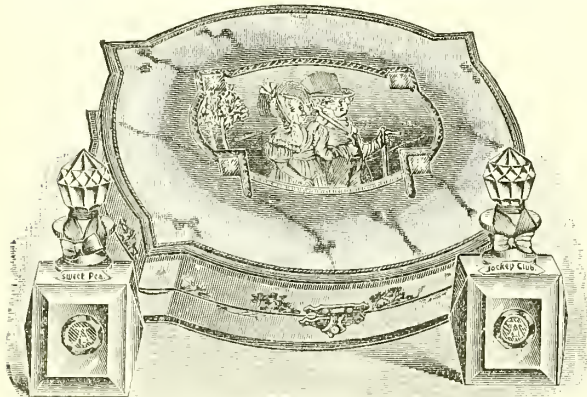
PHOTO. CHRISTMAS-CARDS.—The photographic season should never be "off" for chemists if they give thought to seasonable demands. Now, for instance, is the time when very good business can be done in greeting-cards with spaces for photographs. A selection which Messrs. Houghtons, Ltd., 88-89 High Holborn, London, W.C., send us from their ample stock exhibits artistry and variety with

moderate cost; in fact, this year's cards are a distinct advance in design and execution. The company tell us that they will be glad to send a copy of an illustrated and descriptive price-list of the cards to any of our readers who apply to them for it.

MESSRS. WRIGHT, LAYMAN & UMNEY, LTD., Southwark, London, S.E., make a point in an announcement in this issue of the fact that the present popularity of coal-tar soap is due to their extensive advertising of Wright's Soap. It might be added that until the advent of Wright's Soap, tar-soaps were somewhat abhorrent black skin-soaps, which were seldom used for the toilet, but the soap combined with Wright's liq. carbonis detergens was a new creation, with the antisepticity and without the nastiness of the old-fashioned tar-soaps. All that Messrs. Wright, Layman & Umney now ask, however, is fair dealing in regard to an article whose popularity has been created by merit and advertising, and whose price is protected on a remunerative basis.

OOWANA SOAP has entered on a new and enlarged phase of life. The company, having acquired the candle plant of Vinolia, Ltd. (with candle trade-marks), and the Snowdal disinfectant, sheep-dip, etc., has been reincorporated with a larger capital and expanded board of directors, the title of the new company being the Oowana Soap and Candle Co., Ltd. Extensive premises for manufacturing purposes have been taken at Bow Bridge Wharf, E., where soap will be made from the raw materials (partly for use in Oowana and the Snowdol soaps), paraffin-wax purified, candles produced, and the Snowdol disinfectants and sheep-dips manufactured. The company will retain city offices at 26 Red Lion Square.

NEW PERFUMERY.—Messrs. Alien & Hanburys, Ltd., Bethnal Green, London, E.C., have for several years made a feature of cut-glass bottles of perfume, and this year have added several fresh patterns. Some of these are illustrated in our advertisement pages, where the prices and



sizes of the various bottles are given. It will be noted that the bottles are obtainable fitted in caskets, silk lined, and tastefully got up in colours, the illustration which we give here being representative. It does not, however, convey the full idea of the beauty of the package, but this difficulty is easily surmounted as Messrs. Allen & Hanburys have arranged to send a small selection of these goods carriage paid on receipt of postcard. Those chemists who take advantage of this offer should give an indication of the class of goods they are likely to sell. The prices range from 9s. per dozen to 7s. and 8s. each.

PHARMACEUTICAL PRODUCTS.—We have this week had an opportunity of inspecting an interesting group of pharmaceutical specialities produced by Messrs. Geo. Curling, Wyman & Co., 58 and 59 Bunhill Row, London, E.C. First of all there are several products in which heroin figures—bromo-heroin, syrupus pini-heroin co., and glycerol terpin-heroin co. Bromo-heroin is a combination of bromoform, heroin, senega, tolu, and Virginian prune, a clear syrupy and palatable liquid resulting. Those who know the difficulty in getting a stable mixture of bromoform will appreciate what is implied by our remark that a successful result has been obtained. The glycerol terpin-heroin co. is a pink

preparations containing $\frac{1}{4}$ grain of heroin and $\frac{1}{2}$ grain terpine hydrate. The syrup pini-heroin co. also contains heroin with white-pine bark, wild-cherry bark, larch-bark, balm-of-Gilead buds, spikenard-root, and chloroform. The heroin preparations are employed in lung diseases. A recently introduced product is syrup formates co., which contains, in each drachm, sodium formate 1 grain, potassium formate 1 grain, iron formate $\frac{1}{2}$ grain, quinine formate $\frac{1}{2}$ grain, and strychnine formate $\frac{1}{100}$ grain. This syrup is prescribed in the treatment of neurasthenia, anæmia, and loss of vigour, the action of the formates being similar to that of caffeine and cocaine. Another useful galenical is lin. salicyl. co., which is used in the treatment of rheumatism. This is a green-tinted, oily liquid containing methyl salicylate, chloroform, and menthol. The preparations we have enumerated are specially useful for introducing to the medical profession either as suitable for ordering in prescriptions or for own dispensing. The bulk prices for the $\frac{1}{2}$ -lb. and 1-lb. packages are moderate, which is a recommendation where new remedies are concerned.

CHRISTMAS PRESENTS.—In the showrooms of Messrs. R. Hovenden & Sons, Ltd., at Berners Street, W., and at City Road, E.C., many useful Christmas presents are to be seen which are peculiarly adapted for retail by chemists. First and foremost there are thirty or forty different series of cased perfumes to choose from. These are to be had at all prices, the most wonderful value being the sixpenny perfumes, cased as shown in the illustration herewith, and looking tremendous value for the money. With regard to toilet-soaps, Messrs. Hovenden are supplying a series of triple-milled soaps with customer's own name (and compliments) printed on wrappers and labels. These soaps are packed three tablets in a box, and only cost 7s. 6d. per dozen boxes. The minimum order to ensure free printing is 4 dozen boxes. A large and extremely varied selection of fitted brush-cases indicates a popular present for friends at Christmas. These goods are in imitation ivory, imitation ebony (from 2s. 6d. per case), celluloid (3s. 3d. per case), to ebony (as high as 30s. each), silver, and ivory. The silver sets may be obtained from 8s. 6d. to 5l. each. A fine display is made in a special case of silver-backed brushes, and, of course, dressing-combs and hair-brushes are a feature of the business. The range of prices is topped probably by the tortoise brush-set (of eight pieces), which costs 10l. A solid ivory set for a lady costs 8l. 8s., while that for a gentleman may be had for 4l. 10s. A puff-bowl of plain English glass, large enough to take a bath-puff, with a silver lid, may cost 17s., 21s., or 34s. each, according to size. There are likewise fine selections of bath-puffs, nickel soap-cases, Bohemian glass puff-boxes, and papier-maché powder-bowls in the same department. In the "foreign" department there are many elegancies in pump-sprays, perfume-bottles, and perfumery to tempt the buyer. The latest in sprays is the squat shape of best English rock-crystal, with coloured "insets" in the glass. "Hibernian green" is a pretty colour for a spray, and the knobby projections on the squat spray gives a somewhat weird effect. In filigree work specimens are shown of perfume-bottles, with the silver design beaten into the glass. A "cheese-rind" manicure-set (ten pieces in a case, 25s.) is surely a novelty, but the palm for elegance in that line must be awarded to the carved-ivory set (twelve pieces, 8l. 10s.) in a very handsome leather-covered case. The latest productions of the best-known French perfumers are to be inspected in this department. These goods may be obtained either at 29-33 Berners Street, W., or at 85-95 City Road, E.C.



ZANZIBAR COPAL.—The exports from Zanzibar during 1906 amounted to 256,435 lb., valued at 14,390l., against 227,704 lb., valued at 12,457l., in 1905; 90 per cent. went to the United Kingdom and the remainder to Germany.

Personalities.

MR. GEORGE WOODHOUSE, chemist, Ludlow, is the Mayor-elect for that town.

MR. R. A. ROBINSON spoke at Woodford, South-west Essex, on Tuesday, for the United Club.

MR. J. REX ALLEN, chemist, West Bromwich, has got a 37l. 9s. 6d. Limerick prize from "Public Opinion."

SIR WILLIAM CROOKES and Dr. Alexander Scott are the chemists who have been nominated for seats on the Council of the Royal Society.

MR. JOHN SCOLEY BATTLE, pharmaceutical chemist, has been appointed a justice to exercise within the city of Lincoln the powers conferred by the Lunacy Act.

THE employes of John Riley & Sons, manufacturing-chemists, Hapton, Accrington, have presented a silver centrepiece to Mr. Oliver Riley, only son of Mr. J. E. Riley, J.P., C.A., on the occasion of his marriage.

MR. W. JAGO, F.I.C., F.C.S., barrister-at-law, addressed a meeting of the Kinematograph Manufacturers' Association, at the Holborn Restaurant on October 31, on "The Law of Copyright in Kinematograph Pictures."

MR. FERDINAND GREEN FOSTER, chemist and druggist, Landport, has been chosen as the next Mayor of Portsmouth. He is brother of Alderman T. Scott Foster, also a chemist, who has been twice Mayor of the town.

MR. SPENCER H. PLATTIN, chemist, Nottingham, has been elected on the committee of the Nottingham Society of East Anglians. Mr. Plattin is well remembered in Fakenham and Chelmsford, in which towns he gained his experience in the craft.

ON the occasion of his leaving Burham for Australia, Mr. J. A. Rowcroft, of the Burham Drug Stores, was presented with a purse containing 10l., which had been contributed in small sums by the inhabitants of Burham and district. The public presentation took place at the Girls' School, Burham, on November 2.

MISS C. E. PALMER has presented to Mr. Claridge Druce her large and important herbarium, which contains many plants collected by George Don, and sent to her ancestor the Countess of Aylesford for the purpose of being painted. The beautiful water-colour drawings made by Lady Aylesford are now in the possession of another of her descendants—the Countess of Dartmouth.

MR. GEORGE LUNAN, Ph.C., F.C.S., Edinburgh, who resumes his membership of the Pharmaceutical Board of

Examiners for Scotland, has given ample proof of his practical merit by his published papers on the progress of pharmacy, and his business in Queensferry Street, Edinburgh, is evidence of his commercial acumen. Mr. Lunan served his apprenticeship with his brother in Banchory Ternan, then went to Liverpool as an assistant to Dr. Charles Symes, and while there studied with the late Mr. Ward, and passed the Minor and Major examinations in Edinburgh—the latter in 1886. Subsequently Mr. Lunan became manager of Messrs. James Robertson & Co.'s business in George Street,

Edinburgh, afterwards acquiring their branch pharmacy in Queensferry Street, which he has made a rendezvous for West-end consultants. He is an authority on granular effervescent preparations, but his researches show wide pharmaceutical interests.

MR. THOMAS J. BARRATT, of Messrs. A. & F. Pears, Ltd., is making satisfactory progress in his convalescence after an attack of typhoid fever, and has been writing with characteristic vigour in the "Times" and other newspapers regarding the attempt to erect an observatory on a prominent part of Hampstead Heath. He and others object because the site is public property and the observatory be-

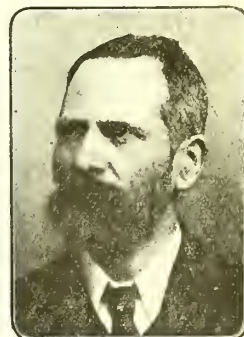
longs to the Hampstead Scientific Society, a small local body.

MR. THOMAS BURRELL, Ph.C., Montrose, who has been appointed a member of the Pharmaceutical Board of Examiners for Scotland, is the son of the late Mr. George Burrell, chemist, of that town, one of the most notable Scotch pharmacists of his day. Mr. Burrell served his apprenticeship with his father, and had, we believe, some experience in Edinburgh, passing the Minor examination in 1879 and the Major in 1881. Since then he has been in Montrose, where he succeeded to his father's business. It is as a practising pharmacist rather than as an investigator that he has been chosen for the examinership, and he approaches the work with matured experience and a reputation for commonsense and business aptitude.

MR. JAMES F. TOCHER, Ph.C., F.I.C., Peterhead, who, like Mr. Lunan, resumes his connection with the Edinburgh Board of Examiners, is one of the most striking personalities in British pharmacy. An environment such as his in a northern seaport town is eminently calculated to favour vegetation, but Mr. Tocher has found time while in business there to qualify for the Major (1890); then he became a pupil of Professor Tilden when he was at Mason College, Birmingham, and passed the Institute of Chemistry examinations. His ability as a chemist is exceptional, and he is noted as a careful examiner. To these are added high mathematical gifts, which are chiefly exercised in anthropometric work, and the British Association and other scientific bodies have recognised his skill in this branch of research by entrusting him with investigations which have called for the most careful exactitude. His work in connection with a degree in science for pharmacists is familiar, but it is not perhaps so well known that Mr. Tocher has during the past three years been a student of biological science in the Aberdeen University.

MR. HAROLD WYATT, Ph.C., Bootle, who has been appointed a member of the Pharmaceutical Board of Examiners for England and Wales, is the son of the late Mr. Harold Wyatt, chemist, of the same town, and, like Mr. Lunan, is an old pupil of the late Mr. Ward, Liverpool School of Pharmacy. Mr. Wyatt has international pharmaceutical interests, and we do not suppose that there are many in pharmacy in this country who, like him, are as familiar with French and Spanish pharmacy as with English. Mr. Wyatt is able to say "Ici on parle Français" and "Se habla Español" in connection with his business. His name is familiar to British pharmacists as the author of numerous contributions on dispensing-practice, but he is one of the most modest of men; and it may surprise those who know him only through his excellent published work that hitherto his modesty has made him decline the honour of being an examiner. The Board is decidedly strengthened by Mr. Wyatt's accession.

MR. F. W. GAMBLE, Ph.C., who also joins the English Board of Examiners, is manager of Messrs. Allen & Hanbury's pharmacy in Vere Street, W., and a Past President of the Chemists' Assistants' Association.



Prescription Problem.

TRANSCRIPTIONS of the above facsimile of an autograph prescription should be written on postcards and sent to the Editor within a week. Three crowns will be awarded on the former conditions.

PRESCRIPTION OF OCTOBER 19.

So many postcards were received in reply to the last problem in the *C. & D.*, October 19, p. 612, that the adjudication has been delayed. The correct transcription of the scrip is as follows:

R. Mist Camph ...	...	...	...	3v
Spt Ammon Ar ...	...	...	...	3j
Syrup Aurantii ...	...	...	...	3ss
Tinct Humuli ...	...	...	...	3ss
M Cochlea ij ampl ter in die				

Comparatively few errors were made on this occasion either as to ingredients or quantities. The most prolific slip was in respect to the quantity of spt. ammon. ar., about 1 in 10 giving 3j., mistaking a long stroke in r for the top of the ounce sign. "Spirit. humuli" was written by some, and a few wrote "tinct. hamamel." for "tinct. humuli." Another error helpful in adjudication was "coch. mag." and fuller renderings of "cochlea" and of "spt ammon ar" were also most serviceable in finding out where the three crowns should go. One of the most accurate pharmacists in England wrote on his card, "If a triple crown shows the correctness of the above, please hand it to the Benevolent Fund of the Society." Alas! the only error on the postcard was the word "Recipe" written in full in place of R. We mention this in the way of consolation to the hundreds who have not come near the three crowns, for the writer of the card would give most of us points in accuracy of observation and in the exercising of a high comparative faculty, yet his first word relegates his card to the big pile of the unsuccessful. The only way to get the money is to write what is in the facsimile; some do that and add a translation or a fuller rendering which helps the adjudicator, but accuracy in the first part is what ultimately determines the awards. On this occasion date also has had to be taken into consideration, and the awards are as follows:

Metropolitan.

A. J. FAIRLEE, 71 Lavender Hill, S.W.

W. MCFADDEN, 45 Buckingham Palace Road, S.W.

Both posted at 10.15 A.M. on October 18. We divide a crown between them.

Provincial.

Here we find six correct who posted on October 18, and we increase two crowns to 12s. and share it equally among them. They are:

FRANCIS H. EMSLIE, c/o R. C. HARRISON, pharmacist, Grayshott.

GERTRUDE STEPHENS, c/o S. Stephens, Milnsbridge, Huddersfield.

S. LOGSDAIL, High Street, King's Lynn.

V. H. ROBSON, 111 Prescott Road, Fairfield, Liverpool.

C. J. JELFS, Dispensary, Worcester.

H. H. BETTELEY, c/o W. Frost, The Bridge Pharmacy, Worthing.

Competitors in Ireland, Scotland, and Wales were out of it on this occasion, especially in the matter of time.

Society of Chemical Industry.

LONDON SECTION.

A MEETING of this section was held at Burlington House, W., on November 4, Mr. R. J. Friswell in the chair. After the minutes of the previous meeting had been read, the Chairman referred to the deaths of Sir William Perkin, Mr. John Clark, Dr. Dupré, Mr. F. H. Gossage, Mr. F. J. M. Page, and Mr. G. A. Davis.

INDIGO.

It was an indigo evening, there being two papers down for discussion on the analysis of indigo. Before calling on the authors of the papers, the Chairman gave an interesting sketch of the present position of the indigo industry. The manufacture of indigo is one of imperial importance. In the five years ending 1904-5 an average of 755,900 acres was devoted to indigo-growing in India, but, owing to the competition of artificial indigo, the acreage is now about 329,800. There has been a similar change in the Dutch Indies, but no statistics are available. The imports of the natural indigo have diminished to 8 or 9 per cent. of the market. Growers of indigo have a few years' respite to set their houses in order, as many using indigo are primitive people and cannot readily change their processes to adapt them to the artificial product. It is time that English manufacturers began to make synthetic indigo. The patents should not prove serious obstacles now that the new Patents Act has been passed. Something may yet be done to save the industry in India by the adoption of modern methods of production.

The Chairman then called on Mr. Cyril Bergtheil to read a paper on "The Determination of Indigotin in Indigo-yielding Plants," and he was followed by Professor W. P. Bloxam with another, on "The Analysis of Indigo and of the dried leaves of *Indigofera Arrecta* and *I. sumatrana*." It turned out to be a duel of analysts. Mr. Bergtheil and Mr. Bloxam were appointed by the Government of India to investigate the problem of improved production of indigo, the former being the bacteriologist and the latter the chemist; but Mr. Bergtheil seems to have gone into the chemical side and taken up a position antagonistic to Mr. Bloxam. Now, whenever Mr. Bloxam publishes some of the results of his work, Mr. Bergtheil brings out a counterblast. There was a little warmth displayed at Monday's meeting, but it was obvious that Mr. Bloxam was upheld by the majority. His paper dealt with the tetrasulphonate method of estimating indigotin, which was first published in a paper read before the Leeds section of the Society. Mr. Bloxam is conducting his research at the Leeds University under the supervision of Professor A. G. Perkin. Some interesting particulars were given of the method adopted to prepare a pure standard indigotin from the Badische Co.'s product, a sublimation process under diminished pressure being eventually found the best to employ. In the analytical process the indigotin is sulphonated to the tetra stage and precipitated with potassium acetate, potassium trichloride being used for the assay. There was a good discussion, in which Professor Meldola, Mr. A. G. Perkin, Dr. Morgan and others took part, and the authors of the papers replied.

MANCHESTER SECTION.

The first meeting of the session was held at the Grand Hotel on Friday evening, November 1. Mr. R. H. Clayton presided in the absence, through illness, of the Chairman, Dr. K. E. Markel. Dr. G. H. Bailey gave an abstract of the voluminous report of the International Committee on Chemical Analysis, after which Professor W. J. Pope, F.R.S., read a paper on "New Views on Valency and Molecular Construction." The paper was illustrated by many models and lantern-slides. The communication proved to be somewhat over the heads of the members, and some of them afterwards gingerly expressed their appreciation.

Observations and Reflections.

By XRAYSER.

The 'Full and Interesting Discussion'

on the dispensing problem which occupied the dialectical skill of chemists from all parts of Scotland at Edinburgh last week, "took place in private," unfortunately, so that we cannot tell whether all the prickly points involved had sufficient consideration to justify the confident manifesto subsequently issued "in the interests of uniformity." It is curious to note that in the course of the discussion "considerable diversity of opinion was expressed," but that in the end unanimity prevailed. This has not been a characteristic of Scotch controversies in pharmaceutical experience. It is desirable, however, especially for those who follow the method advocated by Mr. Merson and recommended by the Scotch conference, to have definite reasons for so doing. An appeal to an anonymous resolution, passed by unnamed chemists, on unstated grounds, would be a poor defence in a court of law. The public discussion, therefore, which Mr. Merson's letter has called forth, fomented by the opposition to his position which has been taken by this journal editorially, cannot fail to be serviceable. This is essentially a subject on which the chemist ought to be persuaded in his own mind.

The Judicial Definition of Dispensing

propounded by Justice Lush in *Berry v. Henderson* as far back as 1870 is, as we have been editorially reminded, the only authoritative interpretation of the exemption in Section 17 of the Pharmacy Act, and it must be recognised by those of us who think we are entitled to "dispense" a bottle of Easton as a particularly awkward obstacle. "A making-up of something prescribed, and selling it with directions as to how it is to be used," was Justice Lush's definition, and it wants some hardihood to fit in with that the supply of a ready packed and labelled bottle of Easton's syrup to a customer who has simply asked for a shillingworth. The directions are there all right, but it is not so easy to discover the prescriber unless we can bring ourselves to attribute that title to the customer himself. But we have the right to claim (for what it may be worth) that the Act nowhere stipulates the conditions of prescribing and directions for use which the Judge implied were essential. His definition was the outcome of a long and desultory conversation between the Bench and counsel, none of whom seemed qualified to help the other much. On the other hand, the Act does definitely require that to bring the transaction within the exemption the poison in the dispensed preparation shall be an ingredient, and this seems to be the answer to the objection that if Mr. Merson's contention be admitted a bottle of laudanum might as readily be "dispensed" without a poison-label as a bottle of Easton's syrup. There is a distinction. In the syrup the poison is clearly an ingredient; in the other case, though the laudanum is technically a preparation of opium, it would be a misuse of language to describe the opium as an ingredient.

The Scotch Pharmaceutical Mind

is evidently in a feverish condition just now. The passionate attack on the by-laws, the eager adoption of the proposed method of dispensing Easton's syrup, the demand for disciplinary powers over chemists who may fail to maintain the proper standard of professional conduct, the desire for the general right to use the description of "pharmacist," the not unnatural but quite unreasonable objection of the Aberdeen chemists to find the sharp edge of the law directed against them-

selves, the "good deal of talk about the formation of a Pharmaceutical Society of Scotland," are all symptoms, let us hope, of robust health. At all events, those who are so ready to complain of pharmaceutical apathy have no right to resent this exuberance of vitality.

The Pharmaceutical Words

occurring in the recently-published new part of the Historical English Dictionary (the latter section of N), are rather on the outskirts of our trade language, but some of them are of interest. *Nightshade*, as applied to certain plants, is not a very intelligible appellation, and the Dictionary does not explain it beyond the surmise that it may be an "allusion to the poisonous or narcotic properties of the berries," a theory of sense-development which seems rather far-fetched. *Nitre* is believed to be a word of Oriental origin. The corresponding and probably cognate Hebrew "nether" in Jeremiah ii. 22 ("though thou wash thee with nitre") is translated "nitron" in the Greek and "nitrum" in the Latin version, but all these terms were applied to carbonates of soda and potash as well as to nitrate of potash until quite modern times. The Dictionary quotes from the "Philosophical Transactions," 1684: "When nitre is prescribed that nitre which is an ingredient of gunpowder is not to be understood." The name *Nitrogen* was appropriately invented by Chaptal, the chemist appointed by the Committee of Public Safety to superintend the production of gunpowder for the Republican armies, as preferable to "azote." *Noctiluca*, an old name for moonshine, and applied to glow-worms and some phosphorescent insects, has a chemical interest as the term selected by Boyle (icy or aerial noctiluca) for the phosphorus manufactured by himself and Ambrose Godfrey Hanckwitz, the secret of which he had either bought or ferreted out from Brandt, of Hamburg. *Nostoc* is one of the crowd of words the invention of which is credited to Paracelsus. The curious genus of algæ called nostoc, which springs up in meadows or ditches after rain, was formerly believed to be an emanation from shooting-stars, or in some other way of celestial origin. Paracelsus called it also "cœli flos," but his French contemporaries, less delicate, chose the effective designation "crachat de la lune," moon's spittings. The Dictionary quotes from Charlton's translation of Van Helmont, 1650, "Nostoch understandeth the nocturnal pollution of some plethorick and wanton star, or rather excrement blown from the nostrils of some rheumatick plant." The alchemists believed it to contain the universal spirit which, if it could be extracted pure, would dissolve gold. In German folk-medicine nostoc is still credited with medicinal virtues; making the hair grow, and curing cancers and fistulas. The earliest quotation of *Nostrum* is dated 1602, "Setting to sale their witless nostrums" (F. Herring). *Nutmeg* is an adaptation of the old French "noix mugee," musk nut.

The Commercial Value to Chemists

of the patent-medicine business is not a consideration which ought to influence us if it is indeed fraudulent and cruel, but it is evidently at the back of the mind of many who discuss the subject. Mr. Sewill has always understood that the trade was not a real advantage to chemists, and Mr. Pilkington Sargeant, with characteristic confidence, "absolutely repudiates" the suggestion that its abolition would check chemists' business. Mr. Sewill's objection is to secret medicines of every sort; and, in pursuance of his policy, he would naturally demand the abolition of chemists' own proprietaries, and make it illegal for chemists to prescribe for customers. What Mr. Sargeant means by abolition does not appear; but he could hardly advocate the suppression of the big sinners, on whose preparations the profit is so scanty, and at the same time tolerate the equally secret compounds which a chemist and druggist, who is not legally authorised to diagnose, recommends to his customers on every opportunity. Assuming that all this was abolished, it is clear that the business of pharmacy would be vastly changed if not checked.

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 "Sanitas Sulphugators,"
 "Sanitas Formic Sulphugators,"
 "Sanitas Formic Lamps,"
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Editorial Comments.

Exclusive to the Trade.

THE recent action by the chemists of Hull in regard to the display of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and another journal in the public reading-room of the Hull Public Library has had a satisfactory outcome so far as THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST is concerned. Sir James Reckitt made a statement about it this week, which is reported on another page. As soon as the matter was brought to our notice we took steps to ascertain where the library was obtaining THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST, as it is quite contrary to the established practice of this journal to permit public libraries or persons not connected with pharmacy and the drug-trade to subscribe for it. As the result of our inquiries we learned that a Hull chemist had been sending his copy of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST to the library weekly after he had read it, his object being to enable assistants and others to see the advertisements in the Coloured Supplement. We called his attention to the fact that we confine the circulation of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST to the drug-trade, and decline to supply public libraries, and he immediately agreed to stop sending his copy. We have since heard that a subscriber in London had sent the Hull Library a copy of our issue of November 2. It is impossible for us to trace the sender of this copy, as detection would mean such an upheaval of our distributing organisation as to cause very general inconvenience to all our subscribers, especially those in London. We have, therefore, to make this appeal to our subscribers generally to support us in our endeavour to prevent THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST being placed before the general public, either through libraries or otherwise. It is a paper private to those in the trade, and the fact is probably not sufficiently appreciated that this is a point of distinction between THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and trade-journals which can be obtained by anybody who chooses to pay for them through booksellers. We know that the circulation of THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST (which to-day is considerably greater than its contemporaries) would be more than doubled were we to institute a scheme of selling through booksellers and railway book-

stalls, as is the case with some medical and trade journals. This would probably add many thousands of pounds to our revenue; but in consideration of the fact that *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* is a journal of pharmacy and the drug-trade, its influence and value would be greatly depreciated to subscribers and advertisers if the public were to be placed on an equal footing with them in the matter of subscribing. It stands to reason that retail chemists could not feel safe in discussing in the columns of a trade journal matters dealing with their relations to the public if they felt that they were addressing the public as well as their *confrères*. Besides, the Trade Reports in our pages are of such a nature that it is entirely to the interests of buyers that they should not be made accessible to the public. Further, it would be a serious consideration for advertisers that their advertisements—intended solely for retail and wholesale purchasers of their commodities—should also be available for perusal by the public. These objectionable circumstances we avoid by our system of exclusive subscription. Moreover, a circulation such as ours, strictly confined to buyers of the goods advertised, is of infinitely greater value to advertisers than one which includes people who have no connection with the trade. The Hull incident simply brings into relief facts in regard to our circulation which are already known to business-houses, but it is well that our readers generally should be made aware of them.

Official Experimental Work.

THE annual report of the medical officer of the Local Government Board (1906-7), which was recently published, forms a supplement to the Board's report. It is a thick volume of 560 pages, and deals with the scientific work of the medical department. Investigations regarding tuberculosis, cerebro-spinal fever, and plague, take up the greater part of the space. Among the mass of information there are several items of particular interest to chemists.

One of these is the record of experiments made by Dr. John Wade as to the penetrating power of sulphur dioxide when employed for disinfecting the hold of a ship while packed with cargo. It has been previously established that fumigation with sulphur dioxide is probably the most generally useful method of dealing with a plague-infected ship in that not only does it kill within the vessel rats which may be carriers of plague, but it destroys also rat-fleas and plague bacilli that may have become distributed among the cargo. It has, moreover, the advantage that it is equally effective for destroying the microbes of cholera and the mosquitoes by which yellow fever is probably disseminated. Carbon monoxide, carbon dioxide, and formaldehyde are open to objections, the last-named having practically no penetrating power. Certain points in the use of sulphur dioxide were, however, unsettled, such as whether, owing to the extensive absorption of the gas by many articles of cargo, the remaining small percentage could be distributed through a loaded hold in a reasonable time, and whether the damage to grain was serious. The experimenters set to work by constructing a model hold, in which a representative cargo was placed, and a series of operations was carried out to settle some of the moot points. The report, which is very long, is illustrated with photographs and drawings of the experimental plant, and such details as the comparative sensitiveness of sewer rats and white rats are discussed at great length. The outcome of the experiments was to prove that (1) rats and insects can be destroyed in less than two hours by the uniform diffusion of at most 0.5 per cent. of sulphur dioxide, a condition

easily realised in practice; (2) pathogenic bacteria are destroyed by the same treatment, but in extreme cases the fumigation needs repeating; (3) textile fibres and fabrics, metals, and furniture are not affected by sulphur dioxide, but are liable to injury by the accompanying sulphuric acid; (4) moist foodstuffs are uneatable after exposure to sulphur dioxide (wheat in bags is rendered useless for bread-making, but in bulk is not seriously affected; barley and maize are practically unaffected); (5) sulphur dioxide is preferably generated by a small sulphur furnace with large air blower. Another part of the report deals with Dr. Klein's investigation of Haff-

Plague Prophylactic.

kine's plague prophylactic. The results summarised are that the injection of rats with efficient material—the raw or the heated filtrate of emulsion of dried plague organs—in appropriate dose has proved protective in as short a period as seven days against subsequent cutaneous inoculation of virulent *B. pestis*; against plague infection that is administered in the most effective manner. Further, it appears that the protection thus afforded, though inducible so speedily, may be trusted to persist many days and even weeks. The interval was sometimes as much as four to five months. The organ-prophylactic seems to possess advantages over the Haffkine and Calmette prophylactic, if the last two are not to be depended on to secure protection unless the interval between the injection of the prophylactic and infection by *B. pestis* amounts to ten days or a fortnight. As regards the twice-heated filtrate of emulsion of efficient dried raw material, the experiments show that an interval of nine days is sufficient to secure complete protection. There are several other things in the report which will interest those of our readers who are public men and have to do with local sanitary matters, but for these the full report should be consulted.

Nicotine.

THE production of nicotine in England is not a new industry, but within the last few years there has been a strong development in this branch of chemical manufacture, due partly to economic and partly to fiscal causes. Nicotine is manufactured from the refuse of the tobacco factories—principally the midrib of the leaf of the Virginian and Kentucky varieties of tobacco, these being used on account of their greater alkaloidal content. The preference for these particular growths by nicotine makers has led to the importation of these "stalks," as the midribs of cigar leaf tobaccos and other kinds are weaker. In consequence there has been a great accumulation of cigar stalks, which, with other refuse, has become so great that 10 tons a week are burnt in the Islington dust destructors under Customs supervision. Nicotine manufacture centres round Liverpool and London—the two great tobacco-leaf centres of the United Kingdom. There are few makers (the total number at present is about five). Four interdependent factors have contributed to extraction of nicotine on a large scale: first, the enormous quantity of waste or by-products; second, the preference for nicotine over arsenical compounds for horticultural insecticides; third, tariff influence; and fourth, waste-making tobacco leaf. The Customs report for 1906-7 shows that tobacco "offal" has jumped from 1,000 to 3,000 tons in three years. Last year a big competitor entered the commercial arena in the shape of the Imperial Tobacco Co., who equipped a factory with the requisite plant at Bootle. In October a Manchester firm entered the lists, while a Liverpool firm, already producing, has obtained additional bonded premises for nicotine extrac-

tion. The Committee of the Board of Agriculture, which in 1903 took evidence in regard to sheep-dipping, favourably reported on nicotine dips, and the Board of Customs promised to facilitate the production of nicotine. In 1904 Mr. Austen Chamberlain imposed a high differential import duty on tobacco leaf which had been stripped of its midrib abroad. The consequence was increased importations of the entire leaf, which had to be stripped before use in the tobacco factories of the United Kingdom. Seeing that one-fifth the weight of a tobacco leaf consists of the midrib, a big quantity of nicotine-producing material became available to nicotine manufacturers without importation; but since Mr. Asquith reduced the differential import duty on stripped tobacco, a greater quantity of "strips" has been imported, with the consequence of lessening somewhat the "stalk" market for the nicotine maker, and so inducing a greater importation once more of American "stalks." Notwithstanding this tariff influence on importations of whole leaf, a large quantity of "stalks" has been produced in home factories. Formerly it was cut up with the leaf blade to produce such varieties as "Bird's-eye," but this form of manufactured tobacco is no longer in popular favour; besides, there has been an abnormal waste in tobacco manufacture. The nicotine manufacturer gets his tobacco material duty free, and he makes the alkaloid in bonded factories under the supervision of Crown officials, who are there for the purpose of seeing that no tobacco gets out again as such. The tobacco manufacturer deposits his bags in this bonded factory and receives the drawback thereon. Much care is exercised by the Customs in looking after these bags while in the possession of the nicotine maker. They are locked up, counted, watched, and during the macerating and extracting operations the vats are under observation. A nicotine producer must permit this official inspection under a bond penalty and forfeiture of rights to manufacture. After draining off the infusion from the tobacco the marc must be burnt in the presence of the Crown official, who certifies to this fact. Commercial nicotine must contain not less than 90 per cent. of pure nicotine, calculated on the anhydrous product, the remainder being "solids." To ascertain that this proportion is present, samples are drawn and submitted to the Government Laboratory; for should this standard of purity not be reached the product must be refined. As showing the growing importance of the nicotine industry, we may state that in 1901 792 samples were submitted to the Government Laboratory, in 1902 more than half as many again were sent, and the number for the last three years has ranged round 1,100. There is no record of the bulk quantity represented by each sample or any estimation as to the rate of growth of this industry, but there can be no doubt that it has grown to be a "big thing," and it is not surprising to those who are familiar with it that other makers are entering the field. "Nicotine" under the 90-per-cent. standard is an "extract or essence," and by law all tobacco extracts are illegal and prohibited to be imported. Officially approved nicotine is not regarded as an "extract" in the statutory sense, and consequently no embargo is laid on its importation. Samples are taken by the Customs on import for "strength" ascertainment, and the article detained until the analyst's approval is obtained. It has been suggested that Ireland might do worse than grow tobacco for the nicotine maker rather than for the tobacco manufacturer, as being unsuitable for smoking purposes; but poor old Ireland is not having much encouragement to grow any kind of tobacco. It is interesting to recall the fact that the late Mr. Thomas Christy was one of the first to draw attention to the utility of nicotine as a plant-insecti-

cide, and he imported it from the Continent. A leading firm of manufacturers of alkaloids took up the industry here, and there was an opportunity for retail chemists such as is rarely given to them; but the work of distributing the tons of nicotine preparations which are sold annually is certainly not in their hands, although by statute it should be.

"Peace, Retrenchment, and Reform."

Mr. James Mackenzie, of Edinburgh, one of the best fighters the Pharmaceutical Society has ever had among its members, is quite doleful in our correspondence columns in regard to what the Society has not done for the retail drug-trade of Great Britain. Mr. Mackenzie calls for a complete change in the administration of the Society. Whether Mr. Mackenzie is supported or not that is a proposition which must very soon be faced by the members of the Society, for the exchequer at Bloomsbury is almost depleted of cash. The members individually are responsible for the Society's debts. The Finance Committee reported on Wednesday that there was a balance in hand of 289*l.*, and accounts to pay amounting to 3,053*l.* The following is a statement of how matters have stood at the corresponding dates since 1901:

November	Balance in Hand	Accounts to Pay
1901	1,787	1,344
1902	2,337	1,699
1903	329	2,158
1904	678	1,833
1905	635	1,733
1906	1,552	2,135
1907	289	3,053

During this year and last efforts have been made to cut down expenditure to the uttermost, but the Council as a body have not seriously attacked the financial problem; at least, we have seen little public indication of it, and the Council have tacitly sanctioned expenditure on publications (the chief cause of impecuniosity) without (1) reckoning the cost and (2) considering whether or not they are within the legal powers, or (3) required by the members. If we may judge from this month's figures (less than 300*l.* to meet accounts due of over 3,000*l.*) the Council have lost grip of the business side of the Society, and for that reason alone there is something to be said for Mr. Mackenzie's call for immediate reform. Retrenchment and peace are also needed, the last because during the past two or three years a few officials of the Society have adopted a dog-in-the-manger policy which has caused the Society loss, and would react more strongly upon it were it not for the temperate attitude of those whom these officials rank as opponents.

Cost of Disinfectants.

The medical officer of health for Poplar has presented to the Public Health and Housing Committee a statement showing the cost of carbolic and other disinfectants in 1903-5, and of the electrolytic disinfectant from February 1906 to October 1907. It is rather a complicated document, but a comparison of expenditure shows that the electrolytic disinfectant cost 882*l.* from February 1906 to October 1907, and it states that if carbolic disinfectants had been used the cost would have been 1,654*l.* This is quite a striking contrast, and it may help to justify the installation of the electrolysing brine plant at Poplar; but it ought not to be used as an argument against carbolic disinfectants. We find that the yearly average cost of the latter, including distribution, in 1903-5 was 743*l.*, made up of (1) disinfectants, 275*l.*; (2) bottles, etc., 145*l.*; and (3) wages, 323*l.* A year's supply of the electrolytic stuff costs: (1) electricity,

40l.; (2) bottles, etc., 124l.; and (3) wages, 540l.—a total of 704l., without reckoning the initial cost of apparatus (583l.) and repairs (12l. 12s.). It may be that Poplar is getting more for its money, but the fact remains that it is spending more on the electrolytic stuff.

Liniment of Turpentine B.P.

By WM. A. KNIGHT, Ph.C.

THE difficulty of obtaining a uniform preparation of this liniment by the pharmacopœial method is well known. Mixing the soft-soap with water is tedious and troublesome, unless, as the writer suggested in a previous note in this journal, the soap is dissolved by heat. A still simpler and quicker method, however, consists in extemporaneously preparing the soap from potash and oleic acid in the presence of oil of turpentine. The following formula is suggested:

Solution of potash B.P.	3 fl. oz.
Oleic acid	7 fl. dr.
Oil of turpentine	13 fl. oz.
Camphor	1 oz.
Distilled water	sufficient to make 1 pint

Mix the solution of potash with an equal quantity of water in a bottle, add the oleic acid previously mixed with 3 oz. of oil of turpentine, and mix by gently inclining the bottle up and down (violent shaking at this stage produces excessive frothing).

An emulsion is at once formed, to which the remaining oil of turpentine (with the camphor dissolved in it) may be added in quantities of 1 oz. or more at a time, gently shaking after each addition. Finally, mix with enough distilled water to produce a pint. The result is a thick creamy emulsion, whiter than the usual product, and containing the pharmacopœial percentage of active constituents. It does not, of course, contain the glycerin present in soft-soap, but this may easily be added if the addition is considered of any value.

Festivities.

Leeds Chemists' Dinner.

THE annual dinner of the members was held at the Grand Hotel, Leeds, on Wednesday evening, November 6, Mr. F. Pilkington Sargeant (President) in the chair. He was supported by Dr. Symes, Mr. W. L. Currie, Mr. Bowman, Mr. W. D. Pollett (ex-President), Mr. Cretchley (President of the North-East Lancashire Association), Mr. J. H. Beacock (Treasurer), Mr. G. W. Worfolk, Mr. Yewdall, and representatives of the kindred associations in the West Riding cities and towns. There was a very large attendance. The loyal toasts having been honoured, the President proposed "The Pharmaceutical Society," which Dr. Symes acknowledged, referring in his speech to the great changes which are occurring in the practice of pharmacy. Mr. J. H. Beacock proposed the toast of "Kindred Associations," and Mr. Broadhead, of Batley, responded, devoting considerable time to abusing THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST and its editor, but he was equally critical of the Pharmaceutical Society and its leaders, and did not spare Mr. Currie, the Chairman of the Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations. The toast of "The Leeds Chemists' Association" was proposed by Mr. Currie and was responded to by Mr. Yewdall. Musical selections filled in the intervals between the speeches.

Chemists' Assistants' Association.

THE annual reunion was held on Thursday evening, October 31, in the banqueting hall of the Restaurant Frascati. The chair was taken by Mr. Harry Hickey, who was supported by the President of the Association, Mr. W. G. Northey. There was an exceptionally large attendance of members and visitors, among whom were seen: Messrs. Rogerson (Hearon, Squire & Francis), H. J. Fisk (Parke, Davis & Co.), Alec. Boyes (Baiss & Steven-

son), A. H. Solomon (Allen & Hanburys), J. Clark (Burroughs Wellcome & Co.), and W. R. Haddock (S. Maw, Son & Sons). The Chairman was also supported by Dr. Gordon, Mr. Ralph Cassie, Mr. Woollons, Mr. S. J. Massey (Messrs. Meggeson & Co., Ltd.), Mr. R. J. Brown (Hounslow), Mr. Breitenstein (*en route* for India to join Messrs. Parke, Davis & Co.'s staff there), Mr. G. R. H. Clark, and Mr. Reginald Stevens (an amateur lightning sketcher), who amused the company in the course of the evening.

A capital programme was provided, many of the items receiving a most enthusiastic reception. Miss Marie Schulz sang "I want a little man like you" very "pointedly," and in the second half "Waiting at the Church" (by desire) was taken up by the audience in no unmeasured voice. Messrs. Phillip Ritte and Sydney Jamieson gave "Excelsior" in fine style, and Mr. Fred Wildon's Living Marionettes were highly appreciated. Mr. Harry Fisk gave a most finished rendering of a high-class banjo solo, which was a novelty in these reunions. Mr. Harry Hall and Mr. Charles Wreford (Cornish sketches) also contributed.

Before the close, the Chairman referred to the good work done by the C.A.A., strongly appealing for continued support to it, and expressed the hope that everyone had enjoyed the evening's entertainment. The President briefly replied, and proposed a hearty vote of thanks to Mr. Hickey for the able way in which he had conducted the function. Much praise was due to Mr. A. R. Arrowsmith for the excellent programme provided and for the manner in which he carried out the entire arrangements for the evening.

Gazette.

Partnerships Dissolved.

BRICKELL, E. R., and JONES, J., under the style of Brickell & Jones, High Road, Kilburn, London, N.W., chemists, etc. CUNNINGHAM, R. W., and KINMONT, P., under the style of Cunningham & Kinmont, Newark-upon-Trent, physicians and surgeons.

ELLIOT, THOMAS, and ELLIOT, WILLIAM MARSHALL, Coldstream, trading as Marshall Elliot Bros., chemists and druggists; as far as regards Mr. Thomas Elliot.

POTTAGE, JOHN C., and ROWLAND, GEORGE HOWARD CHARLES, 115 Princes Street, Edinburgh, homœopathic chemists; as far as regards G. H. C. Rowland.

WILKINSON, F. H., and WILKINSON, B., under the style of Benjamin Wilkinson & Co. and the Brookside Chemical Co., Oswaldtwistle, Lancashire, chemical-manufacturers, etc.

Information Wanted.

Inquiries for the names and addresses of manufacturers, or other trade information, not traceable by reference to the advertisement-pages of "The Chemist and Druggist" and the "C & D. Diary," or not filed in our private register, are inserted here free of charge. Postcard or other replies to any of the subjoined inquiries (addressed to the Editor "The Chemist and Druggist," 42 Cannon Street, London, E.C.) will be esteemed.

- 21/25. What is stellatine oil?
- 18/55. English agents for Oxone.
- 477/10. Address of Nurse Emerson.
- 19/72. London agents for Roseliade & Co., Paris.
- 17/67. Agents for "Pine-tree" brand turpentine.
- 18/90. Address of the Ambienes Co., makers of bandages.
- 21/39. Where can Cavallier Frère's toilet-soap be obtained?
- 20/54. Present address of Heathfield & Co., glass-bottle makers, formerly of Attercliffe.
- 16/3. What is the composition of a paste used to cure inveterate smokers, or who are the makers?
- 18/9. Who is the maker of an I.R. pessary shaped like a funnel with supporting tapes at the tube end?

Pharmaceutical Society of Great Britain.

COUNCIL MEETING.

THE work of the meeting on Wednesday occupied a little over an hour and was mainly of a routine character. The Secretary was asked to write a letter of sympathy to Dr. Bottle on the death of his father, Alexander Bottle, of Dover, a former councillor. The Council granted 209l. to applicants for relief from the Benevolent Fund, the amount being referred to as a record. The interesting point was mentioned that there are altogether ninety-nine pensioners, this including the regular annuitants. The divisional secretaries were elected for the year, and the Boards of Examiners appointed. In the case of the English board the new examiners are Messrs. F. W. Gamble, F. Pritch, T. Tickle, and Harold Wyatt. The Privy Council have asked the Council to make observations on the memorials received against the confirmation of the new by-laws. The Secretary has analysed the names on the four petitions and finds that there are the names of fifty-seven unqualified persons out of 556 signatures to the two chemists' petitions.

THE monthly meeting of the Council was held on November 6 at 16 Bloomsbury Square, London, W.C. There were present the President (Mr. J. R. Young), the Vice-President (Mr. J. F. Harrington), the Treasurer (Mr. Walter Hills), and Messrs. C. B. Allen, A. S. Campkin, M. Carteighe, W. G. Cross, W. L. Currie, W. H. Gibson, R. L. Gifford, A. Hagon, J. Harrison, G. T. W. Newsholme, C. J. Park, P. F. Rowsell, S. Symes, E. White, and A. C. Wootton.

THE LATE MR. BOTTLE.

The minutes of the previous meeting having been taken and read and confirmed the PRESIDENT referred to the death of Alexander Bottle, Dover. He was, said the President, one of the most charming personalities he had ever come into contact with since he had been associated with the Council. Mr. Bottle was an ideal old-world pharmacist, a type which it was a perfect pleasure to see. When he retired from the Council he was much missed.

The TREASURER made a few remarks about his "dear old friend," adding that he knew Mr. Bottle probably better than any other man on the Council. When he (the Treasurer) joined the Council twenty-six years ago his uncle, Mr. T. Hyde Hills, said to him: "Walter, you go and sit beside Mr. Bottle. He will always keep you straight." Mr. Bottle was a man of very considerable ability and great experience. His well-balanced judgment caused him to be referred to on the Council as the "Lord Chancellor" or the "Attorney-General." Mr. Bottle died full of honours, and although in accordance with his wish there was no public funeral, it was obvious to those who attended that he was very much respected by all classes in Dover.

It was resolved to send a letter of sympathy from the Council to Dr. Bottle, son of the late Mr. Bottle.

A letter from Mr. Hobbs was here read asking the President to excuse him from attending the meeting owing to ill-health.

ELECTIONS AND RESTORATIONS.

A few persons were elected members and student-associates of the Society, and five were restored to the register of chemists and druggists on paying the fee and making the required declaration.

FINANCE.

The VICE-PRESIDENT next moved the adoption of the report of the Finance Committee. The following is an abstract of the report:

Penalties and costs	...	...	£134	9	2
Subscriptions	...	...	56	3	6
"Pharmaceutical Journal"	...	...	560	2	3
School-fees	...	...	889	1	0
Ground-rents	...	...	36	18	3
			£1,676	14	2

After paying the amounts authorised at the October Council-meeting there remains a sum of 289l. 15s. 10d. with which to meet the following liabilities, the payment of which was recommended:

On behalf of the "Journal" and publications	...	...	£1,919	19	11
Sundries	...	...	11	2	1
House expenses	...	...	205	5	9
Stationery, etc.	...	...	48	11	2
Current expenses	...	...	250	0	0
Salaries, etc.	...	...	267	1	8
School and examinations	...	...	294	8	2
Law-charges	...	...	56	16	2
			£3,053	4	11

Benevolent Fund balances current	...	...	£761	13	4
Donation account	...	...	5	14	6
Orphan Fund	...	...	105	15	8

The Vice-President mentioned that among the donations to the Benevolent Fund was a guinea from the North-East Lancashire Association, and the same amount from the Chemists' Assistants' Association.

The report was adopted.

BENEVOLENCE.

The report of the Benevolent Fund Committee was considered in committee, after which

Mr. CROSS, in moving the adoption of the report, stated that it was recommended that grants be made amounting to the record sum of 209l. It is unfortunate that there should be so many applications for relief, but satisfactory that the fund is able to render such assistance. He mentioned also that many of the sums are recurring and in the nature of pensions. Altogether with the annuitants there is a total of ninety-nine pensioners relieved by the Fund. Mr. Cross also asked for votes and influence on behalf of Richard Ambrose Reeves, the orphan son of a chemist, who is seeking admission to the London Orphan Asylum at Watford. The boy's father was in business at Norwich, and died in 1903.

Mr. CAMPKIN thought that when councillors attend meetings of chemists special emphasis should be laid on the work of the Benevolent Fund.

Mr. GIFFORD said that whilst there is a satisfaction in being able to do so much good by means of the fund it shows the necessity of the Council attending to the material needs of chemists as well as the ethical side.

The PRESIDENT said that councillors never lose an opportunity of referring to the benefits of the fund, and he reminded Mr. Gifford that poverty is not confined to the pharmaceutical profession.

The report was adopted.

The Council also voted the sum of 30l. from the Orphan Fund for the support of H. L. Lowther at the London Orphan Asylum.

The SECRETARY mentioned that he attended the asylum last week at the opening by Sir Thomas Stevenson of the new laboratory and took the opportunity of seeing the boy Lowther.

LIBRARY, ETC., COMMITTEE.

The TREASURER submitted the report of the Library, Museum, School, and House Committee, the chief items being the approval of Messrs. Parkinson's account for 158l. 3s. 6d., and the grant of the lecture-theatre to the London Chemists' Association and the Association of Women Pharmacists for meetings. It was also decided to hold the October Council-meeting next year on September 30. The Salters Company approved of the appointment of Miss Renouf as Salters Fellow. The executors of the late Sir Thomas Hanbury sent a cheque for 50l. to augment the fund given by Sir Thomas to present an honorarium to the Hanbury medallists. At present the fund does not produce quite 50l. The portrait of Mr. S. R. Atkins was instructed to be placed on the walls of the council-chamber.

The TREASURER, in commenting on the report, said that, owing to the crowded state of the walls of the council-chamber, those who were ambitious to have their portraits

in that Valhalla should curtail the dimensions of the canvas, as size and superficial area must be seriously taken into account in future.

In reply to Mr. Rowsell the President said that the 50*l.* honorarium given to the Hanbury medallist fell short of the amount to the extent of income-tax.

The report was adopted.

ORGANISATION.

The report of the committee on organisation which met on October 2 referred to meetings at Manchester, Nottingham, Leeds, and Preston. The Cardiff Association suggested that Monmouthshire should be included with Wales in a Welsh meeting to take place at Pontypridd. At a meeting of the Committee held on November 5 the list of divisional secretaries was submitted and approved.

Mr. HAGON asked about the Welsh meeting, and

The PRESIDENT said that the question referred to in the report had not yet been decided. Mr. Hagon also inquired whether members of Council who are not members of the Committee on organisation would be allowed to see the report of the meetings.

It was arranged to send the report to the councillors in succession.

The divisional secretaries were appointed and the PRESIDENT expressed the indebtedness of the Society to these gentlemen for their services.

EXAMINATIONS.

The report of the Examiners on the October Minor was next submitted. This consisted of statistics which showed that in England and Wales there were 149 candidates, and 54 passed, whilst in Scotland of 76 candidates 25 passed. Certificates by approved examining bodies were received from sixty-nine persons desirous of registration as apprentices or students.

SECRET REMEDIES.

The report of the Parliamentary and General Purposes Committee referred to the deputation which waited on the Council from the Western Chemists' Association in reference to secret remedies and proprietary medicines. A sub-committee was entrusted with the investigation of the subject.

EXAMINERS.

The sub-committee appointed to choose examiners for England and Wales for the ensuing year recommended the following appointments:

E. H. Farr	R. W. Phillips
H. Finemore	Felix Pritch
F. W. Gamble	W. F. J. Shephard
F. Goldby	T. Tickle
H. R. Le Sueur	H. Wyatt
E. Peck	W. P. Wynno

The Council approved of the selection, and also of the names submitted by the Executive of the North British Branch for the Board of Examiners for Scotland (see *C. & D.*, November 2, p. 694).

It was also stated that the Committee discussed the draft Pharmacy Bill, but deferred decision till the December meeting.

A resolution was also passed appointing Mr. E. F. Harrison to assist the Board of Examiners for England and Wales whenever necessary. The times of the Minor and Major examinations for 1908 were also fixed, those for the Major being April and July—in accordance with the resolution of the Council to diminish the frequency of that examination.

CORRESPONDENCE.

The Grimsby Chemists' and Druggists' Association wrote suggesting that the examination-fees be raised to fifteen guineas, to include life membership of the Society, that a membership diploma, suitable for exhibition, be provided, and that a fellowship be established, fellows to be elected by the vote of members.

The Privy Council sent on a communication from the Essex Coroner in regard to a death from "XL-All" nicotine fumigator, which was investigated at Loughton in September. The Coroner stated that it was the second case he had investigated recently. The Privy Council asked for observations.

THE BY-LAW PETITIONS.

Another communication from the Privy Council was about the Scotch by-law petitions. The Privy Council sent copies of the petition, with the signatures attached. There were four petitions, two signed by chemists and two by students. The letter from the Privy Council was mislaid, and whilst it was being searched for

The TREASURER suggested that the By-law Committee should be given authority to send a suitable reply.

This was seconded by Mr. CROSS, but

The PRESIDENT said that a reply had been already drafted. Probably the Council would give approval and send the reply at an early date.

The SECRETARY said that unfortunately the Privy Council letter could not be found for the moment, but copies of the petition were distributed.

Mr. WOOTTON asked if the copy had been carefully made, as his copy did not read coherently.

The SECRETARY, continuing, said that two of the petitions were from chemists and two from pharmacy students. The chemists' petitions contained 556 names, and of these 255 were members of the Society and 301 were non-members. Among the last-named were 57 unregistered persons and two duplicate names. The students' petitions were signed by 146 persons, but there are no means of checking whether the signatories are students. Most of them are not registered as students of the Society, showing that they have no immediate intention of presenting themselves for examination. All the signatures to the memorials had Scotch addresses attached. The Secretary added that he had also compiled lists of officers of the Society, members of the Executive, and members of the Board of Examiners who have signed the petitions.

The matter was then considered in committee, this ending the public business.

The Week's Poisonings.

EIGHT deaths from poisoning have been reported during the week, one only being a misadventure. This occurred at Sutton-in-Ashfield, the victim being the week-old son of a labourer named Mosley. The child was given two drops of laudanum in a little sugar and water by a nurse named Page "to make it sleep." The child died and Mrs. Page was censured by the Coroner's jury.—Frederick Charles Edwards (44), a Colchester metal planer, died from laudanum poisoning, an open verdict being returned by the coroner's jury. Mr. J. F. Marlur, chemist and druggist, Colchester, gave evidence at the inquest of analysing the contents of a glass found beside the deceased. Mr. Marlur found it to be an alcoholic solution of opium, and he likewise explained to the jury the law regarding the sale of laudanum by chemists.—A woman named Burkinshaw purchased small quantities of laudanum from five different chemists at Wrexham and then poisoned herself by swallowing the lot.—Mrs. Esther Ann Pettett (47), of North Ormesby, obtained an 8-oz. bottle of carbolic acid from Mr. D. Simpson, chemist, and drank enough to poison four people.—Jeremiah Mason (48), a police-constable who had been reduced in rank, poisoned himself at Queensbury with prussic acid, which he obtained from Mr. Richard T. Simpson, chemist and druggist, assistant to Mr. Arthur Hanson, of Queensbury. Mr. Simpson produced his poison-book, showing that Mason had purchased 2 drs. of prussic acid for poisoning a dog. Mason had signed the book, and Mr. Simpson told the Coroner that it was customary for police officers to purchase poison for dogs.—The man who was found dead in a London and North-Western train outside Euston last week was subsequently identified as Harold P. Brierley, confidential clerk in the office of the Borough Surveyor of Warrington. At the inquest, held at St. Pancras on October 31, evidence was given by a Warrington solicitor, who knew the deceased, that 1*s.* worth of prussic acid was obtained by deceased from Mr. H. M. Ashton, chemist, Sankey Street, Warrington, for the purpose of poisoning a dog. The medical evidence was that death was due to prussic-acid poisoning.—At Skipton, Anthony Wright (45), an aerated-water manufacturer, poisoned himself with sulphuric acid.

Winter Session of Chemists' Associations.

CANNON STREET ECLOGUES.

*Of the wind on the moor, or the song in the trees,
Of the rose of the dawn, or the sigh of the breeze,
We may sing not of these;
But of wisdom that's drowned in the Sessional seas,
Of the Tale that is hushed, or political wheeze,
We may sing you of these.*

AT THE F.P.A.

The Fiat went Forth to the South and the North,
For the Squarites were rude and imperious;
So we swallowed our pride, 'neath the shade of St. Bride,
And we gathered in manner mysterious.
Little gain have we won, though much talking was done,
And for two solid hours we debated
Of the things that we tried, and of some mystified
At the way we were always checkmated.
For well was it known to the Clique round the Throne
That the F.L.A. was "a great danger,"
That "its ways must be watched" and "its policy
scotched."
By the method of dog-in-the-manger.
So they gibed and they sneered when suggestions appeared,
And quite put all our nerves in a flurry,
And they made us so mad that they frightened poor Gadd,
And gave long sleepless periods to Currie.
And now when we seek, every month, every week,
For a Livingstone, Nansen, or Stanley,
To discover a Mind, a clear Pathway to find,
We are told to keep both eyes on Hanley!

Bolton Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held on Thursday, October 31, when there was a good attendance of members. Several matters of local and general interest were discussed, and arrangements brought forward for a dinner to be held at Talbot's Rooms on Wednesday, November 27. This will be open to all registered men in the district. Those who intend to be present should write, before November 23, to Mr. Percy Knott, 1 Blackburn Road.

London Chemists' Association.

THE lecture-theatre at 17 Bloomsbury Square was fairly well filled on Wednesday afternoon, November 6, by students, members of the Association, and their lady friends who had assembled to hear Mr. F. H. Glew, of Clapham, lecturing on the x rays. In the absence of Mr. T. H. W. Idris, M.P. (President of the Association), Mr. F. W. Truman (Chairman of the General Purposes Committee) presided. Mr. Glew is an expert on the subject of x rays and electrical medication, and he held the audience for an hour and a half with an exhaustive account of the subject, from the preparation of the first Crookes tube to the most recent applications with radium. The lecturer urged the increasing importance of electrical treatment in medicine and surgery as a reason why the study and application of modern electrical methods should be more vigorously taken up by the pharmacist. He performed many successful experiments with x rays and with radium, having brought his very complete apparatus to Bloomsbury for that purpose. A hearty vote of thanks was accorded to Mr. Glew at the close of the lecture.

Three Towns Chemists' Association.

THE fourteenth annual meeting of the Plymouth, Devonport, Stonehouse and District Chemists' Association was held in the Chemists' Library, Plymouth, on Thursday, October 31, Mr. S. A. Perkins (President) in the chair. The attendance was exceptionally large.

THE ANNUAL REPORT of the committee showed a creditable record of work. The Association has lost two members by death, but the total membership is considerably larger than last year.

The Educational Committee, for whom Mr. Walter Gwillim will act as Secretary, has carried out a useful programme of

demonstrations and lectures for junior members, and has arranged a series of lectures, etc., for the next session, at the close of which it proposes offering some valuable prizes for competition.

Messrs. G. Fairweather, J. W. Jones, H. M. Marcoolyn, and J. Williams were unanimously elected members.

THE FINANCIAL REPORT presented by the Hon. Treasurer (Mr. H. D. Davey) showed a good balance in hand, and an additional foundation bond discharged.

OFFICE-BEARERS.—Messrs. Tillman and Gwillim examined the ballot-papers, and announced the following as members of the new committee: Messrs. F. J. Barge, W. Barrett, F. W. Broom, H. H. Cannon, H. D. Davey, F. A. Goodwin, H. Noel Hearder, J. E. Knight, F. Maitland, C. J. Park, S. A. Perkins, Robt. F. Roper, F. A. Spear, Edward G. Turney, and W. Condy U'Ren. The officers were elected as follows: President, Mr. R. F. Roper; Vice-President, Mr. S. A. Perkins; Hon. Treasurer, Mr. H. D. Davey; Hon. Secretary, Mr. H. H. Cannon; Hon. Secretary to Educational Committee, Mr. W. Gwillim.

OTHER BUSINESS.—A reference was made to the generous bequest of the late Mr. P. A. Kelly to the Benevolent Fund.

On the motion of Mr. Maitland, seconded by Mr. J. Barge, the best thanks of the meeting were heartily accorded Mr. S. A. Perkins, the retiring President, for the zeal and courtesy with which he had discharged the duties of his office. Mr. Perkins returned thanks, acknowledging the help given by the Treasurer and Secretary, whom he thanked on behalf of the members, Mr. R. F. Roper supporting. Mr. F. A. Spear and Mr. H. D. Davey acknowledged the vote.

Barnsley Chemists' Association.

THE annual meeting was held at the Royal Hotel on Thursday, October 31, Mr. J. P. Norwood (President) in the chair. There was an average attendance of members. The Secretary and Treasurer read their annual reports, which showed that the Association is in a flourishing condition, the bank balance being very satisfactory, and the attendance of members last session was rather better than in previous years, as papers had been arranged for every meeting of the session. After the various officers had been thanked for their services during the year, the members proceeded to the election of new officers. Mr. Rigby, who took the initiative in the formation of the Society and held the post of Secretary for six years, was unanimously elected President, and Messrs. Nash and Bellamy were appointed Treasurer and Secretary respectively.



MR. W. RIGBY, F.S.M.C.
The new President of the Barnsley Association served his apprenticeship in the town with the late Mr. F. Billington, studied at the Northern College of Pharmacy, and passed the Muir in July 1892. Was an assistant in Peterborough and Aylesbury and dispenser at Bucks County Infirmary before commencing business at Barnsley in 1893.

Cheltenham Chemists' Association.

A GENERAL MEETING was held at 11 Imperial Square on Thursday, October 31, Mr. John Fletcher (President) in the chair. There were present also Messrs. W. Barron, F. Reynolds, J. Balcomb, M. C. Mansbridge, J. A. Thomas, A. C. Saxby, J. Chambers, H. B. Clarke, C. J. James, T. T. Dolman, F. T. Palmer, F. H. Hawley, C. J. Willis, A. J. Wells, W. Palmer, and W. H. Hill (Hon. Secretary). Mr. Barron having retired from the office of Divisional Secretary, Mr. M. C. Mansbridge was nominated for the office. Mr. Barron is regarded by his *confrères* as the Grand Old Man of pharmacy. After remaining two years at Southampton Mr. Barron commenced business in Cheltenham in 1848,

and continued in the same shop until 1890, when he relinquished it in favour of his only son, and still resides quite close to his old premises. Mr. Barron was the first to make chlorodyne for the late Dr. Collis Browne.

Mr. Barron's association with the Pharmaceutical Society may be regarded as unique, as he joined in 1842, the year after its formation, and has been continually connected with it up to the present time.



MR. BARRON.

Mr. Barron enjoys the admiration and most cordial relationship of his fellow chemists and townsmen, but owing to his somewhat retiring disposition has never sought any public office with the exception of borough auditor for several years, and for the past seven years a director of the Cheltenham Gas Co. He is a dear lover of a smoke, and is seldom seen without his pipe—the camera has not caught him without it. As a member of the Constitutional Club, when prevailed upon to play a game of billiards, he can give points to members half his age, which is ninety-one years. Gardening has always been his favourite hobby. He is a most interesting companion for half-an-hour's chat. He was apprenticed in 1841 at the age of fifteen for a term of five years, at a premium of 150 guineas, with Messrs. Nelson & White, of Leamington (the name of Nelson having become world-famed as makers of gelatin); there, with four other apprentices, he received a thorough training from the principals and one assistant, the hours of business being from 7 A.M. to 11 P.M. The junior apprentice's first duties included sweeping the shop, cleaning the windows, washing bottles, and delivering medicines. It was essentially a high-class dispensing business, the average number of prescriptions dispensed being one hundred a day. Two apprentices were employed almost entirely in the making of gelatin. At the expiration of the five years Mr. Barron went as an assistant to Mr. Robert Chipperfield, of Southampton, who is still hale and hearty and over ninety years of age. With him Mr. Barron has kept up a weekly correspondence for over sixty years, their letters being of a most entertaining nature.

Dewsbury Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Church House, Dewsbury, on November 4, Mr. J. Day (President) in the chair. There were also present Messrs. R. Gledhill (Dewsbury), S. N. Pickard (Ossett), A. Taylor (Morley), J. Rhodes (Mirfield), R. Broadhead (Batley), G. N. Gutteridge (Dewsbury), J. S. Flowers (Ravensthorpe), and the Secretary (Mr. G. Walker, of Dewsbury).

LOST SYPHONS.—An interesting discussion took place on the loss of soda-water and other syphons, especially those issued by Camwal, Ltd. All the members having suffered more or less from the loss of syphons, it had been decided to make inquiries in regard to the matter. A communication was first addressed to the Glass-bottle Exchange at Leeds, and later on a letter was sent to Camwal, who replied to the effect that some chemists seemed to have an idea that they (Camwal) receive an enormous number of syphons through the Bottle Exchange. Instead of that, in eighteen months they had only received 152 from the whole of Yorkshire. Of that number

six had been placed to the credit of the chemists whose labels had been found attached to them, and of these one belonged to a member of the Dewsbury Association—Mr. Pickard. The remainder (128) had been entered in the company's books as unclaimed empties. Mr. Pickard commended Camwal for the tone of their letter and the explanation. The Chairman remarked upon the seriousness of the question, and stated that he had lost dozens and dozens of syphons. The Secretary explained that he had further written to Camwal asking how many syphons they received from the Dewsbury district alone, but they replied that they were unable to say. The Chairman argued that the syphons collected in Dewsbury ought not to be taken away to Leeds: they should be credited to the local chemists. Messrs. Taylor and Gledhill considered that Camwal had done what they could—a remark with which the Chairman agreed. Mr. Taylor moved that Camwal, Ltd., be asked to notify to the Dewsbury store-keeper that in future all syphons collected in the Dewsbury district be credited to the Dewsbury and District Chemists' Association. This was seconded by Mr. Gutteridge and carried unanimously.

THE SUNDERLAND CHEMISTS' ASSOCIATION wrote asking for the support of the Association in an effort to place Mrs. Margaret Snowball (aged eighty-one years), of Scarborough, on the lists of annuitants of the Benevolent Fund. A similar request was made in regard to Mr. George Andrews (aged seventy-six). After remarks from Mr. Gledhill it was decided to leave the matter in abeyance for a month.

The President was elected to represent the Association at the meeting of the Leeds District on November 21, with Mr. R. Broadhead as his deputy, and Mr. Broadhead was appointed to represent the Association at the dinner of the Leeds Association.

Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations.

A MEETING of the General Purposes Committee of the Federation of Pharmaceutical Associations was held at St. Bride Institute, London, E.C., on November 5. The meeting was timed for 12 noon, but it was almost 12.30 before the Chairman, Mr. W. L. Currie (Glasgow), arrived. The attendance also included Messrs. H. Wippell Gadd (Exeter), H. Antcliffe (Sheffield), R. Feaver Clarke (Gravesend), W. O. Hind (Leicester), H. R. Jackson (Sheffield), Edmund Jones (Hanley), R. Mumford (Cardiff), John Smith (St. Leonards), C. J. Park (Plymouth), and J. C. Pentney (London). Mr. G. H. C. Rowland (Edinburgh District Chemists' Trade Association) wrote to say the Association regretted they were unable to arrange to send a delegate to the meeting.

WHERE TO MEET.—Mr. R. Mumford said he thought that a very great mistake had been made in resolving to hold the one annual meeting of the Federation at the same place as the British Pharmaceutical Conference. He understood the aims and objects of the Federation were entirely distinct from those of the Conference, and they had nothing in common with them. Next year, *e.g.*, the B.P.C. is to meet at Aberdeen. How many chemists did they expect to get there—apart from Scotland? His Association felt strongly that one meeting should be held in London, and another in some central town in the Midlands.—Mr. Gadd pointed out that nothing under the rules prevented them having a meeting in London. The present arrangement was simply to take advantage of the chemists being present.

Mr. Smith said experience had shown that the annual meeting is better attended when the meeting is held at the Conference.—The Chairman thought Mr. Mumford's objection fairly well founded, but while they had not perhaps had enthusiastic support at some of their meetings it did not follow they might not get a good meeting.—Mr. Jones was in sympathy with Mr. Mumford, and thought there was no harm done in bringing the matter forward. He considered Birmingham a convenient centre. The question should be left to the General Purposes Committee after the committee had been appointed.—The Chairman agreed.—Mr. Smith pointed out the futility of discussing the matter at that stage, and suggested they should pass on to the next question.—Mr. Pentney said it was a mistaken policy to follow the Conference. He suggested London because it is a centre and a place of Government, from where they would get better meetings, and the Executive would find it better to work from London than from any other place.—Mr. Mumford said

his Association had taken great interest in the amended constitution, but, unfortunately, the meeting being held this year in Manchester, their delegates could not get there in time.

OFFICE-BEARERS.—The Chairman said their term of office had expired, and asked the delegates to appoint a new set of officers. He thanked the various members of the Executive for the great amount of work and assistance they had rendered. He (the speaker) was not anxious to dissociate himself from the work of the Federation, but he felt it would be a mistake to remain in office as Chairman, but would be glad to take another office.—Mr. Smith asked Mr. Currie to continue in the chair while they had a general discussion on the amended constitution and on the future of the Federation. In the course of a lengthy speech Mr. Smith pointed out that they should take advantage of Clause 8 to appoint a sub-committee—perhaps an acting committee—to carry out the wishes which are arrived at the present meeting of the Executive. The first object of this Federation is, he said, to promote and protect the commercial interests of registered chemists; the second is that the Executive should appoint a committee of, say, five, along with the President and Secretary (making seven), to carry out the conclusions arrived at by the Executive Committee. A third proposition is that the suggested sub-committee should take a hand in the affairs of local associations by suggesting subjects for discussion. From its inception the Federation had had no policy whatever, and he proposed it should, as it were, keep its eyes open as to what is going on and submit questions to the Associations for discussion and invite opinion. Those were the three points he wished to speak of. They were bound by these until the new constitution is amended, though Rule 8 permits the Executive Committee to appoint an acting committee.—Mr. J. C. Pentney agreed with Mr. Smith's proposals, and, after further remarks from Mr. Jones and Mr. Park, the new officers were elected.—Mr. Currie agreed to accept the chairmanship for another year, and as Mr. Gadd intimated his resignation as Secretary and Treasurer, Mr. Edmund Jones, of Hanley, was appointed. The following were elected to form a sub-committee of the General Purposes Committee, the *raison d'être* of this body being to "set themselves to find out the business to be done": Mr. John Smith, Mr. J. C. Pentney, Mr. C. J. Park, and Mr. H. Antcliffe. It is also proposed to ask the Newcastle Association to appoint a delegate.

Halifax Chemists' Association.

A MEETING was held at the Old Cock Hotel, Halifax, on Tuesday evening, November 5, Mr. W. E. Smithies in the chair. There were also present Messrs. W. R. Black, W. W. Fielding, Clement Fielding, T. Liffany, Merrill, Woodward, Thompson, Gibson Dixon, and Percy Swires (Hon. Secretary). The members heartily congratulated Mr. Woodward on his marriage.

CORRESPONDENCE.—Messrs. Smithies, Black, and Woodward, with the Divisional Secretary, are to attend the Pharmaceutical Society's organisation meeting at the Great Northern Hotel, Leeds, on November 21.

INCONSISTENCIES OF THE POISONS SCHEDULE.

A paper on this subject was read by Mr. Dixon, who at the outset expressed his indebtedness to Mr. Granville Wood for his paper on the subject, read at the Federation meeting in May, and mentioned the cases of the Pharmaceutical Society *v.* Boots and Boots *v.* Robinson. The effect of the Armon decision—that the sale of a preparation containing a poison is to be regarded as the sale of the poison itself—was also mentioned. Mr. Dixon proceeded to make several suggestions, which we epitomise from his MS.:

For a preparation containing Part 1 poison a definite percentage should be mentioned to bring the preparation within the regulations of Part 1. Below that percentage the preparation should be dealt with as a Part 2 poison. Preparations of Part 2 poisons containing less than a stated percentage would not be considered a poison at all. Nux vomica illustrates this definite percentage want. Chemists are required to register the sale of a preparation containing strychnine (*e.g.*, syr. hypophos. co. $\frac{1}{2}$ grain per oz.), but may sell to anyone ext. nucis vomica containing 15 per cent. of total alkaloids.

We require a complete list of poisonous vegetable alkaloids.

If oxalic acid is a poison, why not oxalates? So with savin, its extract and decoction.

What is meant by metallic cyanides requires defining. If sulphocyanides are not included, the schedule should state "Except."

The chemical name "oxide of mercury" should be used instead of the words "red precipitate," as it would then include the yellow, which it now omits. It is inconsistent that chemists are required to dispense liniments, etc., in bottles distinguishable by touch, and doctors are not.

There is great inconsistency in the words "Preparations of"; the term is vague and can be made to include many articles which are hardly poisonous.

We require a more definite schedule, a clear and full list of poisonous medicines.

The easiest way out of part of the present strychnine difficulty would be to have Easton's and hypophosphites tablets made with an equivalent of ext. nucis vom.

Mr. Dixon, in his concluding remarks, supported the contentions of Mr. G. F. Merson in the *C. & D.*, and also referred to other correspondence. The President having briefly complimented the author, Mr. W. W. Fielding said there appeared to him to be some discrepancies and much want of differentiation between Part 1 and Part 2. As matters stand, chemists do not know where they are.—Mr. Merrill: Is the Privy Council at fault or the Pharmaceutical Society?—Mr. Fielding: I do not think the Society is strictly to blame; the Privy Council should take the advice of the Society on the subject.—Mr. Thompson said they were liable in dispensing poisons. Mr. C. Fielding: The whole thing turns upon the question, "What is a prescription?"—Mr. Dixon: No; I hardly think "prescription" is the word. The question seems to be "What is dispensing?"—Mr. Black: The law has not yet been defined as to what is a prescription.—Mr. Percy Swires recalled Justice Lush's definition.—Mr. Dixon read this definition, and after hearing this Mr. Black remarked that the definition left a very wide door open. The fact was, as he had contended before, the question "What is a prescription?" has never been strictly defined. The President thought, when they made up a prescription which was not given by a medical man, that they should label the make-up "Poison." Mr. Black reiterated that "prescription" has never been defined. The President pointed out the difficulty in giving the difference between a prescription and a recipe. "When does a prescription cease to be a prescription? By becoming a recipe." Mr. Hebden pointed out the want of care under the Sale of Food and Drugs Acts in taking precautions. Very frequently they took cases which were quite of an off-side character, and left articles of every-day use severely alone. The President and Mr. Dixon both urged that the Poisons Schedule required overhauling, it being out of date. Finally Mr. Percy Swires proposed, and Mr. Thompson seconded, the following motion:

That this meeting of the Halifax Chemists' Association is somewhat alarmed at the many inconsistencies in the Poisons Schedule. They suggest that a certain percentage should be mentioned for mixtures of drugs containing poisons in Part 1 of schedule, which shall bring it within the regulation of Part 1 and below that under Part 2. Also a definite pronouncement is required as to whether sulphocyanides are included in cyanides.

It was also proposed by Mr. W. E. Smithies and seconded by Mr. H. C. Brierly—

That this meeting of the Halifax Chemists' Association suggests through the trade-press that the tablet makers of the country should use an equivalent of ext. nucis vomica in compounding Easton's tablets and hypophosphite tablets.

Both motions were carried unanimously. It was also proposed by Mr. Black, and seconded by Mr. W. R. Fielding:

That the authorities be asked to get, if possible, a clear definition of "What is a Prescription?"

This was carried with acclamation. At the close Mr. Dixon was cordially thanked for his paper.

JAPANESE PHARMACOPŒIA.

AMMONIUM SULFOICHTHYOLICUM.—Our abstract of the fusion-test (*C. & D.*, November 2, p. 653) should read:

If 0.5 g. of the salt, dried at 100° C., be mixed with 2 g. of potassium nitrate (not KHO as then stated) and 3 g. of anhydrous sodium carbonate, etc.

Drug-stores Association.

THE annual meeting of the members of the Drug-stores Association of Great Britain was held at the Mitre Hotel, Manchester, on Wednesday, October 30, Mr. Walter Huntrods (President) in the chair. Between forty and fifty members were present, including representatives from Manchester, Oldham, Bolton, Liverpool, Bury, London, Bradford, Farnworth, Accrington, Leeds, Nottingham, Gloucester, and other towns. After a few remarks from the President the Secretary (Mr. A. Dobson, who communicates the report from which this is epitomised) read a list of apologies and the notice convening the meeting.

REPORTS.

Mr. J. B. Clarkson (Treasurer) submitted a financial statement, which showed a profit on the year's working of 33*l.* 7*s.* 3*d.*

The Secretary, in his report for the year, gave details of the receipts and payments, and stated that the number of subscribers was more than four times that of the year before. Honorary Secretaries had been appointed in many of the large towns, and they have done valuable work. He then gave a list of the numerical strength in the principal centres, which showed that the greatest increases had occurred in those districts where there are local secretaries, Nottingham heading the list, owing to the work of Mr. Manfull. Notable increases in the number of members had also occurred at Oldham, Hull, Liverpool, Cheshire, and Wales. Considering the large number of unregistered men in London, the increase there was only small.

Mr. E. Wilson, on behalf of the auditors, in submitting his report, said he wished to thank the Secretary for the able and efficient manner in which he had kept and prepared his accounts.

The balance-sheet and Secretary's report were unanimously adopted.

PRESIDENT'S ADDRESS.

Mr. Huntrods then addressed the meeting, and after noting that there had been no litigation during the past year, he said:

Our present position and future prospects have been materially strengthened by the open confessions and actions of our interesting opponents. We find that the Pharmaceutical Society and registered chemists generally are gradually—perhaps reluctantly—admitting the truth of our past statements. Dr. Symes, one of the most respected members of the Pharmaceutical Council, in speaking about the examinations, has stated that the Pharmaceutical Society has exceeded the intentions of Parliament, and darkly hints that the conditions such as exist in Ireland will ere long be extended to this country. This confirms our oft-repeated statements that the Pharmaceutical Society, in trying to create a profession and a monopoly, has over-reached itself by instituting a form of examination too theoretical and not sufficiently practical. Had the Pharmaceutical Society carried out the intentions of the Legislature and created a body of highly trained practical men, who had passed through a recognised apprenticeship, then there would not have been any unregistered chemists to-day. Mr. W. Hills, a past president of the Pharmaceutical Society, has admitted that prosecutions under the Pharmacy Act only take place when information reaches them, and he might have added that this information comes from interested members in the trade in nine out of ten cases. The present President (Mr. Young), in appealing for a greater membership, has stated that prosecutions are instituted in the interests of the trade—this in face of their oft-repeated statements that they were taken in the interests of the public. We feel extremely grateful to these gentlemen for their frank admissions, which will considerably strengthen our case and contentions that the regulations as to the sale of poisons and the administration of the Pharmacy Act should be under the local and imperial authorities. The last, but by no means the least, statement that we have repeatedly made is that while the Pharmaceutical Society was ruthlessly prosecuting non-certificate holders, it was blind to the illegal sales which were being carried on by its own members. The case of Mr. Robinson has destroyed whatever slight hopes the Pharmaceutical Society had of the Legislature strengthening their hands. (Applause.) It is impossible to conceive a weaker form of defence than that set up, and one cannot wonder at the Magistrate wearily asking "Have you no defence?" (Laughter.)

According to the C.D.A.'s report, we find that the number of claims made on the Association for mistakes is about double what they were the previous year. This is in contrast with

the marked absence of mistakes made by unregistered chemists. These confessions, legal cases, reports, and other ugly facts have been brought to the notice of the authorities and various M.P.s. It is no wonder that the Pharmaceutical Society are fearing what we are looking forward to with pleasure—a Committee to take evidence on the Government's Poison Bill.

Reference was next made to journalistic criticism of the Association and its work, Mr. Huntrods then proceeding as follows:

The question that is uppermost in the minds of those in the drug-trade is, "How can we best unravel the entangled skein?" I believe that if a round-table conference of the representatives of the various sections of the trade could be brought about, we should have little difficulty in arriving at a conclusion which would be satisfactory to all sections, without loss of dignity. But so long as the Pharmaceutical Society maintains a superior air, such a conference is out of the question. In that case each section will have to take what it can get. Of one thing we are sure, we shall lose nothing and stand a good chance of gaining something. One matter which will greatly influence our Legislature is the numbers engaged in the drug-trade outside the registered chemists, and having regard to the annual decrease of registered chemists and the annual increase of the unregistered, and from returns and certain facts, we find that the number of unregistered chemists will exceed the registered chemists by 1,000 at the end of the next five years. These will, I believe, eventually be recognised, and the longer legislation is delayed the better the result will be for us.

The question of disclosing the contents of so-called patent medicines is one which is forcing its way to the front, and I have no doubt that not only in our Colonies, but in the Mother Country, the sale of children's soothing-syrups containing narcotics will before very long be prohibited, with a possible further restriction on the sale of some of our most powerful drugs. The sale of unprofitable proprietaries—and many other matters and questions—is one in which we could co-operate with the Pharmaceutical Society to stamp out; but, until our position is legalised, we must, for the time being, hold ourselves aloof. If we are to maintain and better our position we must stand shoulder to shoulder, loyally supporting the Association, sinking our petty differences and jealousies and helping one another. (Loud applause.)

A few lines of doggerel about "John Chinaman, the pharmacist," which had been sent to the President, were here read, and in concluding he stated that this year he had separated his address from the report in order that there might be full discussion on the latter. On account of the Association not having a trade journal, it was impossible to keep all the members fully acquainted with the details and extent of the work carried on. He then gave a full account of the work during the past year.

OTHER BUSINESS.

Mr. Councillor Whittaker (of Accrington), Mr. Clement Crompton (of Bury), Mr. Machin Chambers (of Bolton), Mr. E. S. G. Mayo (of Liverpool), and Mr. Barnett (of Leeds), Vice-Presidents of the Association, then submitted their reports. They were followed by the Local Secretaries—Mr. R. L. Smith (Liverpool), Mr. James (Gloucester), and Mr. Manfull (Nottingham), and those not present had sent written reports.

On the motion of Mr. Mayo, seconded by Councillor Whittaker, a hearty vote of thanks was accorded to the President and members of the Council for the able manner in which they had carried out the past year's work. Mr. Geo. Child and Mr. Escriette responded on behalf of the Council. A similar compliment was paid to the Vice-Presidents on the motion of Mr. Donnelly, seconded by Mr. A. W. Balshaw, and Councillor Whittaker and Mr. Mayo responded. Mr. W. L. N. Woods and Mr. Kirkman moved a vote of thanks to the Local Secretaries, which Mr. R. L. Smith (Liverpool) acknowledged. Mr. J. B. Clarkson (the Treasurer) and the auditors were also thanked.

The President, Council, and officers were unanimously re-elected. Twelve amendments and additions to the rules were discussed and passed.

ALICANTE EXPORTS.—The exports of saffron from Alicante during 1906 amounted to 14,000 lb., valued at 12,000*l.*, against 15,000 lb., valued at 13,000*l.*, in 1905. Other exports from Alicante last year included 1,535 tons almonds, 3,360 tons wine lees (1905, 5,450 tons), 840 tons ground red pepper (1905, 1,050 tons), 1,070 tons liquorice-root (1905, 840 tons), and 250 tons aniseed (1905, 160 tons).

Trade Report.

NOTICE TO BUYERS.—The prices given in this section are those obtained by importers or manufacturers for bulk quantities or original packages. To these prices various charges have to be added, whereby values are in many instances greatly augmented before wholesale dealers stock the goods. Qualities of drugs and oils vary greatly, and higher prices are commanded by selected qualities even in bulk quantities. It would be unreasonable for retail buyers to expect to get small quantities at anything like the prices here quoted.

42 Cannon Street, London, E.C., November 7.

THE fact that the Bank rate (now 7 per cent.) has been advanced thrice in a week is sufficient to restrict consumers' requirements, in most cases, to current needs. Speculation in produce has also been checked by the financial conditions here and the crisis in the United States. The changes among heavy chemicals include an advance in ammonia sulphate and copper sulphate, while arsenic and lead salts are lower. Cream of tartar is firmer. Apart from the auctions crude drugs show few fluctuations. The chief alteration in essential and fixed oils is a decline in clove oil, due to lower price for the spice; cubeb, thyme, and apricot-kernel oils are dearer. Peppermint is slow. Norwegian cod-liver oil is tending easier, and American turpentine is flat and lower. "Outside" changes include cheaper prices for shellac, pepper, and indiarubber. The chief alterations of the week are as follows:

Higher	Firmer	Easier	Lower
Aloes, Cape	Ammonia sulphate	Annatto seed	Camphor
Apricot-kernel oil	Canary seed	Arsenic	Clove oil
Copper sulphate	Chamomiles	Cardamoms	Indiarubber
Croton seed	Cream of tartar	Cod-liver oil	Lead salts
Cubeb oil	Saffron	Pepper (Nor.)	Pepper
Ext. henbane	Thyme oil	Ipecac.	Shellac
Sarsaparilla (grey)	Wax, bees' (Jam.)	Lime oil	Turpentine
		Male fern ext.	
		Nutmegs	
		Rosin	

Foreign Trade in October.

The Board of Trade returns issued this (Thursday) afternoon show that the imports during October were 57,662,116*l.*, or an increase of 3,025,044*l.* as compared with October last year, and the exports 58,319,520*l.*, or an increase of 5,085,189*l.*

The Bank-rate.

The Bank of England rate of discount has been raised on three occasions within the past seven days, and now stands at 7 per cent. It is necessary to refer back to October 1873 to find a 7 per cent. rate, the stringency on that occasion being caused by the payment by France of the indemnity after the Franco-German war, and also by a financial crisis in the U.S.A. It need hardly be said that business in this country is thoroughly sound and that the high rate is merely a protective measure, but if the drain of gold continues an 8 per cent. rate is not unlikely.

False-packed Sarsaparilla.

Of late several parcels of native Jamaica sarsaparilla have been consigned to London mixed with red earthy dust and chumps, and occasionally stones have been found packed in the interior of the bales. A parcel offered at the drug-auctions to-day proved to have been false-packed with several pounds of this rubbish, a practice which, if continued, is likely to detract from the value of the goods and weaken confidence in the article. A more glaring instance occurred recently, in which the buyer found he had paid for stones and chumps, which were not discovered until the bales had been weighed and delivered to his warehouse and cut open.

Heavy Chemicals.

The general tone of the heavy-chemical market remains much the same as indicated in recent reports. There is a very steady demand in practically all branches for prompt or early delivery on both home and export account. Business in forward requirements, however, has been rather on the

quiet side. Values are well maintained, and show little tendency toward any decline.

ALKALI PRODUCE.—Bleaching-powder and caustic soda, in this department, are especially in strong demand. Saltcake, too, is in fair request, and other main products, as ammonia, alkali, soda-crystals, are a good average. Yellow prussiates, too, are on the steadier side.

SULPHATE OF AMMONIA.—This market continues very firm, and with available parcels being taken up promptly, there seems to be every likelihood of the steady tone continuing. Present nominal values: Beckton 12*l.* 5*s.* to 12*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.*, January-April delivery 12*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 12*l.* 10*s.*, Beckton terms 12*l.*, London 11*l.* 17*s.* 6*d.* to 12*l.*, Leith 12*l.* 5*s.* to 12*s.* 6*s.* 3*d.*, January-April delivery 12*l.* 7*s.* 6*d.* to 12*l.* 10*s.*, Hull 11*l.* 18*s.* 9*d.* to 12*l.* 1*s.* 3*d.*

BENZOLS are still only in quiet demand, but are nevertheless steady at about 8*½d.* to 9*d.* per gal. for 90-per-cent. and 3*d.* per gal. for 50-per-cent.

BICHROMATES OF POTASH AND SODA are, perhaps, scarcely in such heavy demand as they were, though the tone is steady at unchanged rates. Bichromate of potash, English and Scotch deliveries, 3*½d.* per lb., less 2*½* per cent. Glasgow, and export 3*¼d.* per lb. i.e.t. f.o.b. Glasgow. Bichromate of soda, English and Scotch deliveries, 3*d.* per lb., less 2*½* per cent. Glasgow, and export 2*¾d.* per lb. net, f.o.b. Glasgow.

LEAD-PRODUCTS are rather lower, with only moderate demand. White acetate of lead, 31*l.* 10*s.* to 31*l.* 15*s.* per t.n. Brown acetate of lead, 26*l.* 5*s.* to 26*l.* 15*s.*; and nitrate of lead, 33*l.* 10*s.* to 34*l.* per ton, all less 2*½* per cent. Glasgow.

American Drug Market.

New York, October 29.

Notwithstanding the financial disturbances during the week, business in drugs has been of fair proportions. Commercial conditions were not promotive of speculative buying, but the run of jobbing orders, especially from the country, was quite satisfactory. The principal price movement was the lower spot quotation for cascara. Opium is dull. Aloes and copaiba are firmer.

ALOES.—An active business has been done in bulk Curaçao at the full asking price of 9*c.* for case lots. Open packages are quoted at 9*½c.* to 10*c.*, as to quantity and seller. The market for this variety is very firm, and higher prices are expected.

ALOIN.—Owing to the continued high cost of aloes, prices have been marked up to 90*c.* to \$1, the former figure being for 500-lb. parcels.

BERBERIS AQUIFOLIUM.—The full rains have facilitated gathering, and Oregon is sending better supplies, with a consequent reduction to 17*c.* in the price.

BUCHU.—Strong advices from both London and Cape markets have influenced a firmer tone here. Quotations are, however, unchanged at 23*c.* to 26*c.* for prime green.

CASCARA.—Lack of interest on the part of consumers on spot and an easier feeling in the primary market have culminated in the lower quotations of 10*c.* to 11*c.*, as to age and quantity. Holders at initial sources have found some difficulty in disposing of their stocks at the present rates; an offer of new peel at 7*½c.* f.o.b. Coast, failed to interest local dealers.

COPAIBA is rather scarce meantime. The more desirable grades of C. and S. American are firmly held at 50*c.* Some goods are, however, available at 45*c.*

DANDELION (GERMAN).—The demand has not been up to expectations, and an easier tone now prevails. Sales for future delivery of the belated new crop are reported at 25*c.* On spot 40*c.* holds good for the time being.

HYDRASTIS.—Demand has fallen off somewhat, and a few lots previously held at \$2.25 are now offered at \$2.05. Powdered is quoted in some quarters at \$1.85.

JALAP is in fairly good demand, and 18*c.* to 20*c.* is asked. Several arrivals have been held up by the Customs authorities owing to deficiency in resin content. The importers claim that the U.S.P. standard of 7-per-cent. resin (of which 85 per cent. must be ether-insoluble) is too stringent. Other dealers have no difficulty in procuring jalap assaying 8 to 10 per cent. total resin, and the opinion has been expressed that the whole trouble, both here and in the London market, can be met by paying a decent price.

MANDRAKE continues scarce, and 9*c.* is now considered an inside figure.

MENTHOL is neglected and weak. The quotations, \$2.25 to \$2.35, are merely nominal; 240 lb. has recently been bought at \$2.06.

OPIMUM.—Consumption is almost at a standstill. Several holders restrict the \$6.25 quotation to case lots, and refuse to break bulk for less than \$6.30, but this show of firmness is not general, and a slightly lower price would doubtless be accepted if an order hove in sight.

PEPPERMINT OIL (AMERICAN).—The jobbing movement has been slow, and quotations are unchanged at \$1.70 to \$1.80. Local dealers have made some heavy purchases in the primary markets, but the terms did not transpire.

London Markets.

ACID, CITRIC.—Both English and foreign continue to be offered at 1s. 9d. per lb., but there is only a slow sale.

ACID, TARTARIC, is steady at 11½d. for English and 11d. for foreign.

ANISEED is quiet and unchanged at 22s. per cwt. for old crop Russian and 22s. for new on the spot.

ARROWROOT.—At auction 309 barrels St. Vincent were bought in at 2¾d. to 2½d. for fair to good manufacturing.

ARSENIC.—The market has had an easier tendency of late, and 30½ per ton will now buy best English white powdered, which is a reduction of about 1s. to 1s. 6d. on previous prices.

The production of arsenic in the United Kingdom in 1906 amounted to 1,599 tons, against 1,523 tons in 1905, and of arsenical pyrites 640 tons were produced, against 641 tons in the preceding year.

BISMUTH.—The metal is in good demand, principally for export, on the basis of 6s. 6d. per lb. Bismuth carbonate and citrate are quoted at 7s. 5½d., and the subnitrate at 6s. 5½d. per lb. net cash in 1-cwt. lots.

CAMPHOR, CRUDE.—The lower prices ruling have induced a much better demand. Sales of several hundred piculs Chinese have been made at 162s. 6d. c.i.f. and 160s. spot; but c.i.f. prices are now much higher.

CAMPHOR, REFINED.—Japanese has been sold at lower prices, including 1-oz. tablets at 2s. 4d. per lb. c.i.f. for near-at-hand, and on the spot 2s. 5d. net has been paid.

CANARY-SEED is firmer, and holders are now asking 37s. 6d. per quarter for Mazagan and Saffi. Screened River Plate is quoted 35s. 6d. c.i.f. terms.

CARAWAY-SEED is steady at 38s. 6d. per cwt. for fair Dutch.

CASCARA SAGRADA remains quiet, with sellers at 47s. to 49s. on the spot, and for shipment the cheap offers lately ruling have been withdrawn.

CHAMOMILES.—Owing to the fact that France has been purchasing largely (mostly No. 1 flowers), prices come firmer from Belgium; and for No. 2 quality, which are now comparatively scarce, 65s. c.i.f. has been paid. A further advance is anticipated before the end of the month.

CHILLIES.—The exports from Zanzibar in 1906 show a remarkable falling-off, being 244,405 lb. only, against 564,305 lb. in 1905, valued at 9,014l. and 2,065l. respectively; the average value for the five years 1901-1905 is 8,654l. At auction 100 bales fair Mombasa were bought in at 17s. 6d. per cwt.

CINCHONA.—The "N.V. Nederlandsche Veem" at Amsterdam reports that the shipments from Java during October amounted to 1,400,000 Amst. lb., against 1,335,000 Amst. lb. for 1906. The total from January to October is now 14,306,000 Amst. lb., against 11,463,000 Amst. lb. during 1906. In the drug auction 12 bales of Guayaquil-Loxa sold at 6d. to 6½d. per lb. for fair bright sound quill, and 1½d. to 3d. for damaged, being cheap. The terms were "without discount or allowance."

CLOVES.—At auction 346 bales Zanzibar were offered, and only 26 sold, including 12 bales without reserve, dark to fair at 4¾d. to 5¼d.; 75 bales stems were bought in at 3d. Privately Zanzibar have been steady, and about 3,000 bales have changed hands, including November-January delivery at 4½d., and January-March at 4½d.; for arrival October-December shipment has been sold at 4½d. to 4½d., November-January shipment at 4½d. to 4½d. The new Zanzibar crop so far totals 116,000 bales, against 13,000 bales last year.

COCOA-BUTTER.—At auction at Amsterdam on November 5, 100 tons van Houten's sold at from 100¾c. to 106¾c. (average price being 104.05c. against 121c. at the previous auction). Six tons de Jong sold at 99¾c. to 100¾c., and 5 tons Mignon at 100c. to 100¾c.; 10 tons Jonkorouwen remained unsold.

COPPER SULPHATE is dearer to the extent of 25s. per ton, the spot price having advanced to 24l. 10s. Liverpool is 23l. 10s. for November-December, and 24l. to 24l. 5s. for 1908.

CORIANDER-SEED is selling at 8s. 3d. to 8s. 6d. per cwt. for Morocco according to quantity.

CREAM OF TARTAR.—It is reported that the works of the

large French maker which were damaged by the recent floods have now been repaired, and that he will be able to deliver again by December. Prices in London are a shade firmer this week, 98 per cent. offering at 89s. and 95 per cent. at 87s. per cwt.

CUMIN-SEED is unchanged at 42s. 6d. to 48s. per cwt. for Morocco, and 50s. for Malta.

DRAGON'S-BLOOD.—Thirteen cases have arrived from Singapore per s.s. "Kawachi Maru."

EXTRACTS (ENGLISH).—*Henbane* extract remains very dear. A little could probably be had from one of the English growers at 8s. per lb., but another has none to offer. *Belladonna* is dearer at from 2s. 6d. to 2s. 9d. per lb. as to quantity, and for *Taraxacum* 1s. 3d. per lb. is quoted, being also higher.

FENUGREEK-SEED.—Retail sales have been made at 11s. per cwt. for Morocco, being firm.

GALLS.—Persian blue are quiet at 77s. 6d. spot; green are offered at lower prices, but are neglected. The quotations are: Blue, 77s. 6d. to 80s.; green, 52s. 6d. to 55s.; and white, 47s. 6d. to 51s.

GINGER.—At auction over 900 packages Cochin and Calicut were bought in, comprising A cut at 95s., B's at 70s., and C's at 52s. 6d., and washed Cochin at 37s. to 40s.

GLYCERIN is very firm, and in some quarters it is thought a further advance is imminent, as certain refiners have withdrawn their offers.

GUM ARABIC.—Steady prices have been paid for the better sorts of Bushire so-called insoluble gum. Mohamerah has been sold at up to 15s. per cwt., but ordinary sorts are easier and neglected. The quotations are: Pale amber, 17s. 6s. to 20s.; Mohamerah, 14s. 6d. to 17s.; and ordinary Bushire sorts, 10s. 6d. per cwt. In the drug auction 12 cases brown Barbary gum were held for 36s.

LINSLED is quieter, but fine qualities are unchanged in value at 50s. to 52s. 6d. per quarter.

MALE FERN EXTRACT is rather easier at from 4s. 9d. to 5s. per lb. net, as to quantity.

MANNA.—For good new flake the high price of 4s. 6d. c.i.f. is asked, but in another quarter 4s. and a shade under is quoted.

OIL, APRICOT-KERNEL, or so-called peach-kernel oil, has been advanced by 1d. per lb., English pressers now quoting 1s. 1d. per lb. net and 1s. 2d. for bleached, in 1-cwt. lots.

OIL, ANISEED, STAR.—Sales of the "Red Ship" brand have been made at 4s. 9d. c.i.f.

OIL, CARAWAY.—Best English distilled has been advanced to 6s. 9d., and the rectified B.P. to 5s. 6d. per lb.

OIL, CLOVE.—The easier tendency noted last week has been followed by a substantial decline of 3d. per lb. on the part of English distillers, who now quote finest B.P. quality at from 3s. 8d. to 3s. 10d., according to quantity. The weak market and lower prices of cloves are, of course, responsible for the production. In the drug auction 2 cases guaranteed B.P. (83 to 85 per cent. eugenol) were held at 3s. 9d. per lb.

OIL, COD-LIVER.—Our Bergen correspondent writes on November 4 that the market continues very quiet. Finest non-congealing Lofoten cod-liver oil is now quoted at 66s. per barrel f.o.b. Bergen. Many holders are, however, asking several shillings higher, but buyers continue to hold off the market. The exports from Bergen up to date amount to 11,134 barrels, against 13,969 barrels at the corresponding date of last year.

OIL, CUBEBS.—English distilled has been advanced to 5s. 3d. per lb.

OIL, LAVENDER.—One of the English distillers has advanced his list-price to 24s. per lb. net for finest. Spanish lavender is very scarce this year, the nominal quotation being about 12s. 6d. *Spike*, on the other hand, is comparatively cheap and plentiful at 2s. 4d. per lb.

OIL, THYME.—Pure *Red* is dearer at 5s. 10d. per lb.

OPIUM.—The market continues very quiet, and although the prices now cabled from Smyrna and Constantinople show a decline of several shillings, there is no desire to operate, as buyers here are mostly supplied for the time being. On the spot, good Smyrna druggists' is held for 18s., seconds 15s.; Malatia, 20s. to 21s.; and Tokat, 22s. 6d. to

24s. Persian on the spot is also very slow, 10 per cent. test being worth about 14s. and 9 per cent. 12s. 6d. per lb., and for arrival bids of 13s. 6d. are asked for prompt shipment.

SMYRNA, October 25.—The market continues quiet, no sales being reported, and in order to effect business lower prices would be accepted. Several showers of rain have fallen in some districts, but a general downpour is much needed to enable farmers to carry on the fall sowings under favourable conditions. The arrivals in Smyrna to date amount to 1,238 cases, against 2,822 cases at the same period of last year.

PEPPER.—At auction prices were easier, and of 237 bags Singapore offered only ten bags sold without reserve, grey at 4½d., the remainder greyish to fair being bought in at 4½d. to 4¾d. On the spot, fair quality quoted 4½d., and fair sales of January-March have been made at 3½d. At auction 290 bags White Singapore were offered and only twenty bags sold at 5½d. to 5¾d. for fair, being cheaper. Privately the market for arrival is dull and easier inclined, the sales including twenty tons Singapore January-March shipment at 5½d. and further sellers c.f. and i.

PIMENTO.—At auction 100 bags were offered and bought in at 3½d.

POTASSIUM IODIDE is steady at 7s. 6d. per lb. c.i.f. for November-December shipment, and at 7s. 9d. on spot.

QUININE is steady but without any speculative business, second-hand sellers asking 8½d. for B. & S. and/or Brunswick sulphate, "outside" brands being obtainable at from 7¾d. to 8d.

The Amsterdam Quinine-works will offer 1,417,500 kilos. (50,000 oz. net) of B.P. quinine sulphate by public auction on Friday, November 15.

SAFFRON.—Fair quantities of the new Spanish crop have been placed this week on the basis of 34s. per lb. net for finest B.P. quality, being an advance of 6d. on previous prices. The crop is small, and the early purchases will in all probability prove the cheapest.

SENEGA is obtainable at from 2s. 3d. to 2s. 4d. per lb. net on spot.

SERPENTARY is steady at 1s. 10d. per lb., c.i.f. terms.

SHELLAC.—The depression noted last week has been accentuated, a further decline having taken place. Consumptive business is quite hand to mouth, fair to good T.N. Orange being offered at from 130s. to 135s. per cwt. spot.

TRAGACANTH.—The general tone of the market is quiet, but prices for the better descriptions are firm, grades under 100s. being easier. Sales of new arrivals of Persian have been made at very full prices at from 5l. to 10l., but desirable parcels on offer are now few, and business has therefore turned quiet. The following are the quotations: Firsts, 15l. to 16l.; seconds, 13l. to 14l.; thirds, 11l. to 12l. 10s.; fourths, 9l. 10s. to 10l. 10s.; and yellow and pinky, 7l. 10s. to 9l. per cwt. In the drug auction 29 cases fresh water-damaged sold without reserve for account of the underwriters at from 8s. 6d. to 9s. 6d. per cwt.

TURMERIC.—Small sales of fair Madras finger have been made at 22s. 6d., and whole bulbs at 18s. 9d. per cwt.

TURPENTINE is flat and lower at 35s. 9d. spot, the financial crisis in the U.S.A. being responsible for the decline.

WOOD OIL.—Sellers on the spot quote 33s. 6d. to 34s. for Hankow, and 30s. c.i.f. for arrival. H.M. Consul-General at Hankow reports that the total export of wood oil from that port in 1906 was 563,706 cwt.; while H.M. Consul at Wuchow reports that 48,329 cwt. passed through the Imperial Maritime Customs destined for foreign countries—in other words, Hong Kong. Complaint is still made of the adulteration of this oil with bean and other oils, a practice the continuance of which will inevitably check the development of an industry capable of great expansion.

London Drug-auctions.

In view of the present financial stress, there was not much inducement to offer drugs at auction to-day; there was a steady, quiet tone, however, and a fair quantity of goods changed hands. Cape aloes realised an advance of 1s. to 2s. Annatto-seed sold cheaply. Sumatra benzoin met with an improved demand at steady rates. Cardamoms dragged somewhat, and were easier. Croton-seed brought high rates. Gamboge is scarce, and held for high figures. No good Jamaica honey was offered. Ipecacuanha was neglected, and

tended easier. Rhubarb is steady, and for Tinnevely senna full prices were paid, while grey Jamaica sarsaparilla was 2d. dearer. Jamaica beeswax was steady, but other kinds were dull of sale. The following table shows the quantity of goods offered and sold:

Offered		Sold		Offered		Sold	
Aloes—				Myrrh	68		0
Cape	40	...	40	Oil—			
Ambergris (pkg.) ..	1	...	0	anise, star.....	5	...	0
Aniseed (Russ.) ...	12	...	0	cedarwood	2	...	0
Annatto seed	22	...	22	cinnamon leaf ...	10	...	5
Antimony (Jap. cr.)	10	...	0	clove	2	...	0
Asafetida	3	...	0	eucalyptus	20	...	10
Benzoin—				lemongrass	82	...	22
Sumatra	92	...	27	lime	20	...	1
Buchu	6	...	3	nutmeg	3	...	0
Cannabis indica ...	26	...	0	peppermint(Jap.)	15	...	15
Cardamoms	122	...	68	sassafras (art.)	16	...	6
Cashew-nuts	110	...	0	Olibanum	31	...	0
Cinchona	12	...	12	Orange-peel.....	4	...	0
Coca leaves (Cey.)	39	...	8	Papain	4	...	0
Cocculus indicus...	12	...	0	Rhapontica	5	...	0
Cochineal	16	...	0	Rhubarb (China)...	63	...	6
Copaiba	1	...	1	Sarsaparilla—			
Cowhage	1	...	0	Ecuador	5	...	5
Croton seed	19	...	19	g e y Jam.....	15	...	15
Ergot	25	...	0	native.....	10	...	4
Euphorbium pil...	4	...	0	Seablac	28	...	0
Fennel seed	50	...	0	Seedlac	100	...	0
Galls (China)	50	...	0	Senna and pods—			
Gamboge	3	...	0	Mecca	10	...	0
Gentian	12	...	0	Tinnevely	354	...	340
Gum arabic	12	...	0	Squill	40	...	25
Honey—				Sugar-of-milk	5	...	0
Australian	10	...	10	Tamarinds—			
Calif.	14	...	14	W.I.	17	...	17
Jamaica.....	18	...	10	Tragacanth	29	...	29
St. Lucia	74	...	74	Turtle, dried	1	...	0
Ipecacuanha—				Wax (bees')—			
East Indian	29	...	0	Australian	11	...	11
Matto Grosso	10	...	2	East Indian	5	...	0
Minas.....	3	...	0	Jamaica.....	19	...	19
Kamala	3	...	0	Madagascar	8	...	0
Kola	8	...	7	Zanzibar	241	...	13
Lime-juice	34	...	21	Wax—			
Menthol	11	...	11	Japan.....	38	...	0

ALOE, CAPE, the only kind offered, realised an advance of 1s. to 1s. 6d. per cwt. Forty cases Cape (Mossel Bay) sold on "usual 20 per cent. tares" at 36s. to 36s. 6d. for fine bright hard firsts, 34s. to 35s. 6d. for good ditto, 33s. to 33s. 6d. for slightly dullish fair seconds, 31s. 6d. for ordinary dull, 31s. for part livery, and 28s. for ordinary dull and drossy. Eight cases Algoa Bay (estimated tares) sold at 33s. 6d. to 34s. 6d. for good seconds, 32s. for fair, and 28s. for dull drossy.

ANNATTO-SEED sold cheaply, 22 bags fair dry Ceylon selling at from 2d. to 2½d. per lb.

BENZOIN.—Sumatra was in better demand, a larger quantity than usual being disposed of, including fair almondy seconds at from 6l. 10s. to 6l. 15s., and good thirds at from 5l. 10s. to 5l. 15s. per cwt. Eighteen cases Siam have arrived via Copenhagen, and 50 cases Sumatra from Singapore.

BUCHU.—Genuine round leaf continues scarce. Two bales of round (slightly mixed) stalky greenish sold at 9d. to 10d., and a bale of stalky yellow ovals realised 6d. Two bales false buchu (*Barosma pulchella*), which were offered as "leaves," were retired.

CARDAMOMS were somewhat neglected, and the bulk of the sales were effected at easier rates, decorticated seeds being also easier. The following prices were paid: Ceylon-Mysore—good bold pale, 2s. 9d.; medium and bold pale, 1s. 9d. to 1s. 10d.; medium pale, 1s. 6d. to 1s. 8d.; small pale, 1s. 4d. to 1s. 5d.; very small pale, 1s. 3d.; bold splits, 1s. 10d., subject; ditto, yellowish pale, 1s. 7d.; brown and split and pickings, 1s. 2d. to 1s. 5d.; broken pale seed to fair, 1s. 7d. to 1s. 10d.; Mangalore, 2s. per lb.

COCA-LEAVES.—Eight cases fair greenish Ceylon sold at from 7d. to 8½d. per lb.

COCHINEAL.—Sixteen bags were retired; 1s. 10d. was wanted for good Teneriffe silvers.

COWHAGE.—Ninepence per ounce was understood to be the price for a parcel catalogued, but not in time for sale.

CROTON-SEED.—Scarce. Nineteen bags fair bright Ceylon sold at 50s. per cwt.

ERGOT.—Sixteen bags fair sound Spanish were limited at 1s. 4d. per lb., and for 7 bags very wormy Russian 11d. net was wanted. Privately higher prices are asked, Russian offering at from 11½d. to 1s. 0¼d. c.i.f. It is reported that purchases on Hamburg account in Russia have been fairly large.

EUPHORBIA PIL., from Queensland, was held for 1s. per lb., a bid of 6d. being refused.

GAMBOGE.—Still scarce. Three cases of fair Siam pipe, rather blocky but unsorted, were bought in at 20l., a bid of 16l. 12s. 6d. being refused.

HONEY.—Steady. Sixty-six cases St. Lucia sold at from 22s. 6d. to 23s. for good clear amber liquid and 21s. 6d. for ullaged, and for 8 cases of dark liquid 20s. was paid without reserve. Fourteen cases inferior Californian sold at 17s. without reserve. Ten barrels Jamaica sold without reserve at from 12s. to 18s. for common fermented to setting yellow and brown. No good Jamaica was offered. Privately good white Californian is quoted 46s. per cwt.; some new crop is about landing.

IPECACUANHA.—Very quiet, with an easier tendency. A new parcel of 29 bales East Indian was offered, consisting of the usual bold, heavy, well-annulated native picked root, but the entire parcel was bought in at 6s. 3d. per lb., 5s. 10d. being the highest obtainable bid; the value is probably 6s. per lb.; four bales siftings sold at from 5s. 6d. to 5s. 7d. Rio (Matto Grosso) was steady, small sales being made at 6s. per lb. for the pick of the ten bales offered. Ordinary lean Minas was obtainable at 5s. 9d. per lb.

KOLA.—Fair dried West Indian sold at 2d. to 2½d. for 7 packages, green being retired at 2d.

LIME-JUICE.—Eight packages fair pale raw West Indian sold at 1s. 2d. per gal.

MENTHOL.—Five cases Kobayashi, which were catalogued for sale without reserve, had been sold privately, and for 6 cases Yazawa, also without reserve, from 6s. 11d. to 7s. was paid by *bona-fide* buyers.

MYRRH.—For 5 casks fair sifted sorts, part blocky, a bid of 90s. is to be made.

OIL, BAY.—A case of West Indian distilled sold at 7s. 3d. per lb.

OIL, CINNAMON.—A parcel of Ceylon leaf oil partly sold at 2½d. per oz.

OIL, EUCALYPTUS.—Of a parcel of 20 cases Australian, of "commercial" quality, half sold at 8½d. per lb.

OIL, LEMONGRASS.—A sale of 22 cases was made without reserve at from 2¼d. to 2½d. per oz. for 77 per cent. citral (Parry's analysis), being cheap. Privately the spot value is about 3d. per oz.

OIL, LIME, is neglected and easier. Plentiful supplies of West Indian distilled were offered in auction, part of which was held at 2s. 3d. per lb.

OIL, PEPPERMINT.—Fifteen cases Japanese dementholised (Yazawa) sold without reserve at from 4s. 3d. to 4s. 6d. per lb. Privately the market for American tin oil continues quiet at 7s. 6d. per lb., and for H.G.H. (of which new consignments are now landing) 11s. 3d. is wanted.

OIL, SASSAFRAS.—For 10 cases artificial 9d. per lb. net was paid without reserve; 6 cases had been sold prior to the auction. Privately 3s. per lb. is quoted for genuine American natural.

RHAPONTICA-ROOT was held at 35s. per cwt.

RHUBARB.—Quiet. Two cases medium to bold round horny High-dried, with half fair pinky fracture and half dark, sold at 10d., and two cases common small round horny, with one-third pale pinky fracture, and two-thirds dark sold at 7½d. per lb. Two cases round and flat Canton pickings with half pinky and half grey and dark fracture sold at 1s. 6d. Small round and trimming root Shensi was held at 3s., bold and medium round Canton at 1s. 10d., and medium to bold flat High-dried at 1s. 7d. to 1s. 8d. per lb.

SARSAPARILLA.—Grey Jamaica was 2d. to 3d. dearer than the previous prices paid in sale, 1s. 11d. to 2s. per lb. being paid for very fair quality, part slightly coarse. Eleven other bales of grey had not arrived in time. Five bales of

common starchy of Guayaquil character, imported *via* New York, but said to be from Ecuador, were offered without reserve, and realised 9d. per lb. Native Jamaica sold at steady rates, 1s. being paid for two bales fair red, and 11d. for two bales dull red; a further five bales were retired.

SEEDLAC.—Karachi was limited at from 8l. to 9l. per cwt., as to quality.

SENNA.—Tinnevely met with a keen demand at very full prices, the following being those paid: Bold greenish leaf 4d. to 5d., small and medium 3d. to 3½d., small specky 2d. to 2½d., and small common 2¼d. to 2½d. per lb. *Pods*, dark to fair, 1½d. to 2¼d.

SQUILL.—Nineteen bales sold without reserve at ¾d. to 1d. per lb. for common brown, and at 1¾d. for fair yellowish.

SUGAR OF MILK.—For Italian of B.P. quality 45s. was asked, at which price sales have been made privately.

WAX, BEES.—Jamaica was 2s. 6d. firmer compared with the last public price paid, 19 packages realising from 7l. 7s. 6d. to 7l. 10s. for rather dark to fair red and brown. The foregoing prices are steady, as 7l. 10s. was paid privately between the auctions. Ten cases grey and yellow Australian realised from 7l. 10s. to 7l. 15s. per cwt. Of East Indian wax only five cases Calcutta unbleached were offered, for which a bid of 6l. 5s. is to be submitted; thirteen bales good red Zanzibar had been sold privately; good even brown block is held at 6l. 15s., and for 8 bags fair red and brown mixed Madagascar a bid of 6l. 15s. is to be made.

WAX, JAPAN.—Good pale squares were bought in at 62s. 6d. Privately small spot sales are reported at 61s.

Continental Drug-market.

BALSAM PERU.—Some holders have grown tired of waiting for business at present prices, so that here and there offers at lower prices prevail. Good quality is quoted at 19.50m. to 20m. per kilo. This may be the beginning of a gradual decline, for it will hardly be possible to do much business even at that price.

COD-LIVER OIL (JAPAN).—During the last few weeks the Hamburg market has been very irregular. Sales of some 1,000 chests for prompt delivery were forced at low prices. Later on more confidence was shown, and some business was transacted on a basis-price of 32m., c.i.f. Hamburg. Supplies for January-February-March quarter of 1908 are more in demand, but nothing is obtainable at this low price.

ERGOT.—Reports as to the new Russian crop all declare that practically nothing has been gathered, but some lots have been disposed of at 2m. and 2.05m. per kilo. Spanish ergot of the new crop is offered at a relatively low price, being obtainable at 2.35m. per kilo. at first cost. Old ergot is offered at 2.30m. per kilo.

JAPANESE WAX.—The market has been quieter during the last few weeks; spot wax is now quoted at 109m. and for shipment 106m., c.i.f. Hamburg.

LYCOPodium.—Although the crop was said to be small, prices have not improved. Spot (Hamburg) is offered in chests from first-hands at 4m. per kilo. and sack lycopodium at 3.90m. per kilo.

Cablegrams.

NEW YORK, November 7:—Business in drugs is moderate. Opium is nominal at \$6.25 per lb. for druggists' by single cases. Hydrastis (golden seal) remains easy at \$2 per lb. Cascara sagrada is easy at 10c. Bromides are 1c. per lb. lower as the result of competition. Senega is easier at 50c. per lb., and peppermint oil is unchanged at \$1.70 per lb.

AMSTERDAM, November 7:—At the auctions of cinchona held here to-day 7,930 packages were offered, weighing 726,266 kilos., and containing 43,612 kilos. of quinine. (This compares with 11,451 packages, or 56,530 kilos. q.s., offered in October.) Of the above quantity 7,554 packages were sold at an average unit of 4.26c. per half-kilo., as compared with 4.43c. paid at the auction on October 3. The following are the approximate quantities of quinine purchased by the principal buyers: (1) The English and American factories, 13,396 kilos.; (2) the Brunswick factory, 3,741 kilos.; (3) the Mannheim factory, 6,855 kilos.; (4) the Amsterdam factory, 1,016 kilos.; (5) the Frankfort and Stuttgart factories, 4,897 kilos.; (6) various buyers, 4,282 kilos. The lowest price paid for manufacturing bark was 8½c. per half-kilo., and the highest 50½c., while for pharmaceutical bark from 7½c. to 44c. was paid. The Java coca-leaves mostly sold at from 30c. to 41c.



TO CORRESPONDENTS.—Please write clearly and concisely on one side of the paper only. All communications should be accompanied by the names and addresses of the writers. Publication of letters does not imply our agreement with the arguments or approval of the statements therein. If queries are submitted, each should be written on a separate piece of paper. We do not reply to queries by post, and can only answer on subjects presumably of interest to our readers generally. Letters received after the early posts on Wednesday cannot as a rule be dealt with in the current week's issue.

BUSINESS INFORMATION.—We have very full records of the makers or agents for articles and products connected with the chemical and drug trades, and supply information respecting them by post to inquirers. Inquiries regarding any articles which cannot be traced in this manner are inserted under "Information Wanted."

The Decolorising Action of Animal Charcoal.

SIR,—In *THE CHEMIST AND DRUGGIST* for July 27, p. 179, there is a report of a paper read at the British Pharmaceutical Conference by Dr. Knecht on the above subject. Neither Dr. Knecht nor the gentlemen who joined in the discussion appear to be acquainted with a paper published by Mr. T. L. Patterson in "*Jour. Soc. Chem. Ind.*" 1903, p. 608, in which an account is given of a very full research on the nature of the carbonaceous matter of animal charcoal. In your report of Dr. Knecht's paper the remarks referring to the nitrogen in animal charcoal really have reference to the carbonaceous matter got by treating the charcoal with acid so as to remove the mineral constituents.

Yours truly,

Sydney, N.S.W., September 28. THOS. STEEL.

Has the Pharmaceutical Society attained the Purpose for which it was Instituted?

SIR,—This question is constantly pressing itself before the members, and the reply is seldom satisfactory. When the founders of this Society appealed to the chemists throughout Great Britain for support a grand future was predicted. Unfortunately, after the Charter was secured, followed by the Act of 1852, there was a tendency by some of the leading members to assume a superior attitude. This did not augment the membership, yet the men at the helm believed in the prospect of better days, and wrought to secure this. The Act of 1868 was the result of a compromise. Great was the exultation over this success. Enough now to state, this Bill was sorely beset by trials, which proved the insufficiency of its powers, while the vaunted benefits to its members vanished. The original plan of pharmaceutical policy was to secure higher education accompanied by adequate remuneration. But this Act had in it a rotten plank, which, in the time of trial, practically sank the ship. That plank was "the Widows' Clause," which could no more be defended in the case of a chemist's widow than it could be on behalf of a surgeon's widow. Had the said Act contained a clause restricting the practice of pharmacy only to such as were entitled to be included in the Register a very much better condition would have resulted. Some may be inclined to ask, Why was not this done? We reply: Because some of the leading members of the Society, chiefly London chemists, knew very well that, while it might have benefited many, it was not likely to suit *them*, as Colonel This and Mrs. So-and-So were interested in such-and-such a business, and could not pass muster. Hence our position to-day, with the result that the chains forged at Bloomsbury Square for outsiders have been adroitly fixed round the necks of members of the Society. To add to our misfortunes, the management of the Society was beset with a craze for accumulating money and securing spacious premises (in addition to what then existed) out of all proportion to the necessities of the case. This resulted from another cause, known by the name of "Bumbledom." The President then was made to believe, and stated from the chair at a meeting, that their Society was now taking an important place among the various London Corporations, and it was desirable that the Presi-

dent should have a liveried officer to attend him on special occasions. All this seemed to be much more important than the real interests of the members of the Society, which alas! had become more like a dream than what had been predicted. True, a few shots were fired now and then from "the Square" to keep up the farce of playing at "Getting an Amended Pharmacy Act." Yet, while the benefits to members were few, restrictions multiplied, and for the junior members of our business examinations were made oppressive and vexatious, far beyond anything of a reasonable nature, offered as an equivalent. Time after time efforts have been made to return men to the Council who would make themselves masters of the details of the Society's business, in order to rectify matters. Yet this has resulted, in almost every case, of these members of Council being so completely managed—and that so skillfully in almost every case—that they do not see it, and possibly will not believe it. In fact, it is pretty patent that the members of Council are ruled by the Secretary, and have seemingly become mere automatons. Thus, after more than sixty years' trial of the present system, our condition is gradually getting worse. Surely it is high time we roused ourselves to the occasion, and realised the desirability of trying some new mode of securing what we have a right to expect. We cannot continue much longer on present lines. Let us look for men of ability to be returned to the Council, who will take nothing for granted, and become masters of the situation. And in making the yearly appointment of a Secretary go resolutely in for a change, getting one who will be more of a servant than a master; and otherwise I would suggest that the new official should be one who is in complete sympathy with those members who are suffering at the present time. We might also be the better of a change of our law-agents and adviser. Possibly we might seek the abolition of all Pharmacy Acts, inclusive of 1868, making our position in matters of education more in line with what then existed, till we have good reason for further enactments. It is also clear to all observers that the treatment of the members and office-bearers of the Society in Scotland demands attention. The official eyes at Bloomsbury Square have long exhibited "a verdant hue." The most recent attempt seems to denude us, under the garb of new by-laws, of our legal rights, and thus place the whole under the control of the Secretary in London. We have had enough of this already. Time was when it was sought to remove the name "North British Branch." It was stated then that if this were done we should go for a Pharmaceutical Society for Scotland. I hold it was a pity we did not do so then, and little more may cause us to do so now. We have our Universities and Colleges in Edinburgh and Glasgow, why may we not have a College of Pharmacy? Chemists have privileges here which those in England have not, save on jury-service. This may be sneered at by some who are as good at that as looking after their own interests, but lessons in law have been taught in Scotland to some at "the Square" already. If the Pharmaceutical Society is to be continued, it must be to secure some benefits for its members, rather than for the officials only. Meanwhile it is desirable that there should be a radical reform, with the least possible delay; and let it begin at Bloomsbury Square, leaving Scotland to manage its own affairs. On the other hand, it would be folly personified to continue what presently exists. For, whether we look at our condition for practical results beneficial to the members or any special benefit secured by the public, the Pharmaceutical Society has been an utter failure on its present mode of management. As a member of this Society who has for forty years taken an active interest in all its doings, and who knew the benefits and blessings under which chemists carried on their business long before 1868, I would rejoice in the freedom we then possessed, while the public had their interest as well safe-guarded by the good sense of those in business.

I remain, etc.,

Edinburgh, November 5. JAMES MACKENZIE, J.P.

Anti-quack Crusaders.

SIR,—It is not my intention to prolong a controversy which seems, unfortunately, doomed to barrenness,

and should you think fit to publish this letter you may rest assured you will not be further troubled by me on this question unless it be at your own request. Your contributor "Xrayser" suggests it would be easy to bring forward an army of navvies, porters, and coalheavers to prove by their muscular development the harmlessness of quack "baby soothing" medicines with which in their infancy they might have been dosed. I would remind "Xrayser" that infantile mortality remains as excessive to-day as it was fifty years ago, and that in its complex causation quack soothing-medicines, as potent contributory causes, and often as determining causes of death, are included by all authorities who have investigated the question. If I have spoken in strong terms of this traffic, they are mild when compared with the denunciations of more authoritative voices. Speaking of one of these medicines, which has the widest sale, a medical expert engaged on the Australian Royal Commission writes:

It is eminently adapted for increasing infant mortality. Eight or ten drops answer the purpose, the child dying with all the symptoms of opium-poisoning.

After speaking of other hurtful preparations containing mercurial salts, the report states that

Other soothing-powders contain morphine, which tends to arrest digestion, injure the baby's vital organs, and lower its vitality, temperature, and powers of assimilation. They (the powders) are mischievous only, and contain no remedial property. Our graveyards are paved with the bodies of poisoned children; it is not so much injury as death that results.

Your correspondent "In Veritate Victoria" suggests that medical science is imperfect, and doctors often ignorant, incompetent, and careless. If this be true, it does not render less imperative the duty of the State to protect the simple populace against the army of quack doctors who derive wealth from suffering humanity. Finally, I would explain that I do not, as "Xrayser" implies, stand alone in my demand for a Royal Commission. Although brought before the British Medical Association only at the end of the Long Vacation, the resolution adopted by the Reigate division asking the Council to promote a Royal Commission has already been adopted by many other important branches and divisions; and it need not be doubted that in time the Association, which among its 20,000 members includes the bulk of leading men, will let its voice be heard in the demand for an authoritative inquiry into the whole question of illicit medical practice, and the trade in quack medicines and bogus apparatus. In this demand the Association will be strengthened by the action of Continental Governments, such as those of Germany and Austria, while the practicability of a Commission will be established by the Australian experiment. The single Australian Commissioner, being protected merely against actions for libel, and having no power to summon witnesses and examine them on oath, has produced a report which will probably result in drastic legislation. . . .

Yours faithfully,

November 4.

HENRY SEWILL.

[We have had to excise parts of Mr. Sewill's letter, in which he supports with exceptionally strong language his plea for a Royal Commission.—EDITOR.]

Recent Prosecutions.

SIR,—The difficulty of working the prosecuting department of the Pharmaceutical Society satisfactorily suggests the propriety of the Council petitioning the Privy Council to be relieved of that particular form of the Society's activity. Probably our Aberdeen friends would give their support to such a petition. Of course, a new Act of Parliament would be needed. But that is very much required, in any case, to render clear and intelligible several points which are obscure and confused, on account of the careless manner in which the present Acts were drafted.

Yours, etc.,

D. B. DOTT.

Edinburgh, November 5.

Seeds Germinating "in Situ."

SIR,—Two years ago I came across a similar case in a grape fruit. It had developed so far that two leaves were fully formed and about $\frac{1}{2}$ in. long, and the little rootlet was about $\frac{1}{4}$ in. long. I transferred the seedling to a pot, and it has grown into a plant about 7 or 8 in. high.

Yours, etc.,

W. T. GORFETT.

The Apathy of Present-day Assistants.

SIR,—You are, of course, aware of the kind offer of Remington's "Practice of Pharmacy," by Messrs. Burroughs Wellcome & Co., to be competed for by apprentices and unqualified assistants in the different towns. One was offered in Cardiff and district, on the condition that half-a-dozen candidates at least would compete. Out of the many apprentices and the great number of unqualified assistants in this district only four candidates came forward, and these were apprentices, I being one. Consequently the competition is dropped. What is the matter? Is the book not worth competing for? For what I have been able to gather, it is certainly a book which is regarded as one of the standard works on pharmacy; therefore it is a puzzle to me why this indifference is shown. I am rather disappointed, as also I expect the other three apprentices are. Is this indifference shown in other towns? I may add that I enjoy your valuable paper very much, and always look forward to it on the Friday.

Yours, etc.,

APPRENTICE. (17/56.)

University Recognition of Pharmacy.

SIR,—Though conscious that it is unusual for your news correspondents to answer outside criticisms of their work, there must be exceptions, and I may be permitted to reply to Mr. Harold Wyatt's letter on "Pharmacy Education in Liverpool" in your issue of October 26. The personal attainments of Mr. Harold Wyatt, coupled with his official relationships with local pharmacy, command notice. Mr. Wyatt's letter at once focuses attention on two rather important communications, which now come into the public light for the first time. The query obviously arises, Why were these two letters, dating back over a year ago, which bear upon a subject of considerable interest to brother craftsmen over a wide area, not communicated before? This delay may be ascribed to the fact that the Council of our Association has for long been accustomed to resolve itself from Council into ordinary meeting, with practically the identical personages at each; what more natural than that they should be somewhat forgetful of the "ordinary" member, who is now much indebted to Mr. Wyatt and "Liverpool Notes" for the information contained in the publication of October 26.

I am aware that in the communications and conferences between the University authorities and the Council of the Chemists' Association many awkward and delicate questions would arise, on which strong feelings may have been expressed on both sides. Thus it is best to forget or let the episodes remain *in camera*. It may, however, without any invidious reflection, be pointed out that just two weeks ago the University established the degree of B.Sc. in architecture; there is also the B.Sc. in engineering. Neither of these has a curriculum other than that laid down by the Senate, and yet the Pharmacy Cinderella of all the arts and sciences must be condemned to a double-dyed course of formality. This "bogey" of an extra-mural curriculum does not obtain in the other Universities in which the course of study, with unimportant variations, is for all practical purposes the ordinary B.Sc. course, with specialisation in pharmacy. It would therefore seem as if the argument *re* the lack of a curriculum, as used by the Liverpool University, was rather irrelevant. The Council of the Liverpool Association may possibly have made the mistake of attempting to incorporate an entirely new faculty in education, or, in other words, staged the play of "Hamlet" with more than one Prince of Denmark in the cast. This question of University recognition must arise again; and there is no man among us more qualified to undertake its resuscitation and management than Mr. Harold Wyatt. The students would be fortunate indeed who enjoyed the privilege of his tuition.

"LIVERPOOL NOTES."

Hobbies.

SIR,—Permit me to suggest for your correspondent "Oxymel":

1. Window and counter dressing daily.
2. Writing window-tickets and cards.
3. Tidying cases and drawers.
4. Spring-cleaning and re-labelling bottles.

LABORARE EST ORARE. (10/4.)

Penny Trade.

SIR,—It is my intention to work up a small wholesale in 1d. and 3d. packed goods (sell to small shops, etc.) in connection with my present establishment. Should be obliged if any of your readers would give me a few working hints, what goods are most suitable, etc. I have had a good experience in the wholesale, but not in small lines of this description.

Yours, etc.,

PACKED. (12/9.)

Sale of "Patents" on Sundays.

SIR,—Would you kindly let me ask your readers what is the custom with regard to the retail of "patents" on Sunday?

A lady customer (not a regular one) rang me up between opening hours for a bottle of Eno's. I charged 2s. 2d. She let me know that she never paid more than 2s., and sometimes less. When I pointed out it was Sunday and out of hours she was highly indignant.

Artisans and labourers are paid 50 per cent. more for work done on Sundays, yet the chemist is supposed to be within call at any hour night or day to serve Mr. Eno and his customers for positively no remuneration, for the profit does not pay for its storage.

Yours faithfully,

October 28.

PERPLEXED. (13/33.)

The Unqualified Assistant.

SIR,—I think it is high time the Pharmaceutical Society should begin to look after its qualified men. There are at present many unqualified men trading under qualified men's names, who even go so far as to give the number of their namesakes' Minor certificates (easily found by looking at the Register), and often change their initials for those of the qualified. My suggestion to would-be employers, before engaging an assistant, is to compel the applicant to show his Major diploma or Minor certificate, according to qualification. Also all men in charge of branch shops should be compelled to hang their diplomas or certificates in the shop, store, or pharmacy where they are employed. The reason I am writing is because I know of several who are deceiving their employers in this way, and the public generally, and hundreds of qualified men are out of employment owing to this deception.

Yours, etc.,

AJAX. (14/24.)

W. B. S. (5/6).—Letters sent to us for publication should not have any conditions attached to them.

Dispensing Notes.

Comprends (12/37).—You may dispense the 300-c.c. mixture in a 10-oz. bottle if you have one, otherwise a 12-oz. Of course, the mixture, like all mixtures, should be made up to the specified volume in a measure; it is bad dispensing to fill up the bottle without ensuring that it is correct in capacity.

L. R. (2/37).—The cloudiness of the bismuth-mixture is due to the sodium bicarbonate, which gradually throws bismuth carbonate unless there is a good excess of alkaline citrate in the liquor. The subject is discussed in the "Art of Dispensing."

Legal Queries.

See the "C. & D. Diary, 1907," for much legal information as to all trade matters. In any circumstance not covered by the articles therein, state the case explicitly with all particulars and submit to the Editor.

Tannacol (17/14).—A chemist's assistant who extracts teeth during his employer's absence must put the fees into the till, even if his employer is not accustomed to charge for such work.

Dryplate (17/43).—(1) If your tenancy agreement is not a lease the stamp-duty on it is 6d. (2) The substance is the gelatin capping of which the recipe is given in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," p. 519. (3) The agreement is enforceable if the limitation of the area is reasonable. The fact that one party to it (A) is not qualified to do what the other party (B) does is immaterial, as it is a master and servant agreement, and A can employ someone else to do what B did.

Inquirer (17/90).—You act quite legally in sending by post a solution of morphine acetate ordered by prescription,

but morphine acetate is a different matter. It is a Part 1 poison, and you have no prescription for it; therefore you sell it, and it must be treated as a sale. You should avoid legal technicalities by supplying the solution originally prescribed, or get a prescription for the pure drug.

Chem (19/38).—The registration of a coined word for a enough-mixture as a trade-mark will cost you 30s., in the event of it being accepted by the Comptroller for registration. The application-form costs 10s., and may be obtained through any money-order office. This 10s. is included in the 30s. fee. We are not aware of anyone who has exclusive right to the title which you mention, but that is a matter for some inquiry.

Fido (20/52).—You as a chemist are entitled to call yourself "veterinary chemist," but "veterinary chemist and specialist" is quite a different matter, and, in our opinion, is an infringement of the Veterinary Surgeons Act. In view of a recent case the word "dog" before "specialist" will not relieve you.

Miscellaneous Inquiries.

We endeavour to reply promptly and practically to trade questions of general interest, but cannot guarantee insertion of replies on a particular date, nor can we repeat information given during the past twelve months. A preliminary condition for reporting on samples submitted is that all particulars as to source and uses are given to us.

Orangia (246/70).—We do not know how eudrenone is prepared. It is a proprietary article. Your other query was replied to at the time. The article is a depilatory.

Jotter (14/35) wants to know how other chemists deal with Karox and Barkola prescriptions. There is not much point in the inquiry; the prescriptions are usually dispensed as printed, and a fair profit taken on all the ingredients.

S.A. Subscriber (24/90).—EUPHORBIA-JUICE.—Our correspondent sends us specimens of juice and its constituents in order to see if there are any commercial possibilities in it. The juice is exactly like milk when exuded, but solidifies within twenty-four hours of collection. An excellent birdlime is made from this juice by Colonial boys, who, however, are shy of collecting it on account of the danger to the eyes should a drop get in. The juice exudes freely, but not in great quantities. One person, with a sharp knife to make longitudinal incisions in the bark and a tin to catch the juice, would collect about 2 or 3 lb. in a day. [Many species of *Euphorbia* yield a copious supply of latex, but owing to its poisonous character, and to the fact that when coagulated it soon becomes brittle and friable, there seems little prospect of its becoming of commercial value. A small export of a similar product to that submitted for report, and known as *Almadeina* gum, has taken place during recent years from Angola, but the last issued Consular report on the trade of that country states that "*Almadeina* gum was worked as Mossamedes, but has now ceased to be exported; 6d. per lb. for two samples sent to a leading rubber-firm was quoted. The shrub from which it is extracted grows in profusion in many districts." We fear, therefore, that prospects of commercial return from the Cape euphorbia-juice are infinitesimal.]

Competently (17/38).—Advice as to the best suburb of London to live in is a little out of our line. Seeing that you are a bachelor, your best course is to take temporary lodgings in an hotel until you have the opportunity of looking round and ascertaining for yourself what locality will best suit your work.

B. F. (14/51).—HAIR-INVIGORATORS.—Few things have a similar stimulating effect to cantharides; perhaps the best substitute is capsicum in a spirituous lotion or ammonia in an aqueous lotion. The tincture may also be used along with zinc-sulphate solution 2 grains per oz. The comparatively small quantities of cantharides used in most hair-lotions have little effect upon the growth of the hair. If you had sent us your complete formula we should have been better able to advise you.

M. R. Schweinfurt (15/37).—You will find the recipes you require in "Pharmaceutical Formulas," p. 579 and p. 657.

E. M. C. (18/16).—SCARLET RENOVATOR FOR HUNTING-COATS:

Stanni chloridi xtl.	...	...	3j.
Acidi hydrochlorici	...	...	3j.
Acidi tartarici	...	...	5ss.
Aque	...	...	3xvi.

Apply with a sponge, and dry out of doors.

Assessor (18/17).—The chemist's business which you refer to is worth about 200l., this to include 180l. for stock and fixtures.



